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Vol. 53, No. 2 **Whole Number 422**

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THE CRISIS *was founded in* 1910 *and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It is published monthly at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York* 3, *N. Y., by The Crisis Publishing Co., Inc., Dr. Louis T. Wright, president; Walter White, secretary; and Mrs. Lillian A. Alexander, treasurer. The subscription price is* $1.50 *a year or* 15 *cents a copy. Foreign subscriptions* $1.75. *The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscription may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care, it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November* 2, 1910, *at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March* 3, 1879.

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COVER

Miss Virginia Curtis, a nurse in the Harlem Hospital, was winner in the cover-girl contest sponsored by the Delta Sigma Theta sorority.

NEXT MONTH

Two articles on aspects of restrictive covenants, one by Attorney Loren Miller of Los Angeles; the other by Dr. Robert Weaver of Chicago. A short story by Thelma Thurston Gorham. The fighting in Java, British re-occupation of Hong Kong, and rioting in Bombay bring to the fore the burning question of western imperialism in Asia. Dr. S. Chandrasekhar, chief of the New York bureau of Janmabhoomi (a group of Bombay newspapers) will write on the return of imperialism to Asia. George M. Houser, executive secretary of the Congress of Racial Equality, Cleveland, Ohio, tells how it feels for a white man to be jim crowed.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Gloster Current is executive secretary of the Detroit branch of the NAACP. Phil Carter is a Hollywood publicist, formerly connected with the publicity department of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. He was at one time director of the only Negro public relations office in Hollywood. Arthur B. Spingarn is president of the NAACP and a collector of Negro books. He has one of the finest collections of books by Negroes in the country. Dr. Hortense Powdermaker teaches anthoroplogy at Queens College, Queens, L. I. She is the author of *After Freedom: A Cultural Study in the Deep South.*

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College and School News

Several scholarships have been awarded by Sears Roebuck and Company to the agriculture department at WEST VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE. These scholarships will be given to high-school graduates who wish to pursue a college education in some phase of agriculture. Some of the awards have already been made, and others will be given during the year.

Revisions in the agriculture curriculum to meet the needs of returning veterans are already included in the program, one phase of which is devoted to preparatory job training.

During the recent Victory Loan drive the alumni association of MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE bought $50,000 worth of U. S. Treasury bonds. This brings the amount purchased by the association to $100,000. These purchases represent investments of the funds raised by the alumni to construct a combined dormitory and recreation building at the college. In addition to housing some two hundred students, the building will also provide refectory space as well as recreational facilities.

The curriculum in aeronautics education, inaugurated at FISK UNIVERSITY during the 1945-summer session, was continued during the fall term in cooperation with the Tennessee Bureau of Aeronautics, the State Board of Education, the City of Nashville, and Tennessee A & I State College. The Tennessee Bureau of Aeronautics granted twenty-flight scholarships of $100 each to students from Tennessee State and Fisk. Five of these students are returned service men, four of whom are enrolled at Fisk and one at Tennessee State.

THE DELAWARE STATE COLLEGE was accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools at its 59th annual convention in New York City. Following announcement of the accreditation, the Delaware Principals Association gave a testimonial dinner honoring Dr. Howard D. Gregg, president of the college, for his achievement in securing this recognition.

In December the FLORIDA NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL COLLEGE presented Bartalini in a program of character songs.

Annual recital of the JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY quintet under the direction of David Carroll was held at the university in December. The quintet was organized in 1909 in Atlantic City, N. J., by Dr. Thomas A. Long, now professor of sociology at the university and organist in the University Church.

Although the organization confines its presentations for the most part to campus audi-

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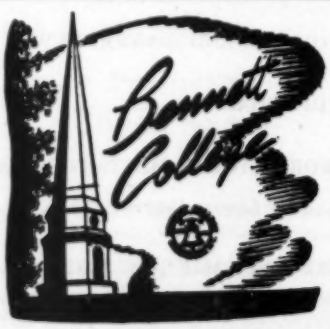

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ences, it has, nevertheless, given concerts in the two Carolinas, Georgia, Tennessee, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, California. The quintet has also broadcast over many of the country's leading radio stations.

Present members of the group are Paul Reid, first tenor; Edward Prioleau, second tenor; William Mills, baritone; Paul Sandifer, baritone; and Joseph Rollins, bass.

At the WEST VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE, according to a report of Dr. Charles C. Hawkins, director of health, more than one thousand persons took advantage of the chest x-ray service offered through the West Virginia Tuberculosis Control Service during a three-day period in December.

Members of the Alpha Xi Zeta chapter of the Zeta Phil Beta sorority at TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE sponsored the annual national infantile paralysis drive at the institute and throughout Macon county during the month of January.

Each year, upon invitation of Dr. F. D. Patterson, institute president, one of the campus organizations undertakes sponsorship of the drive. Chairman of the drive this year was Dr. Deborah Partridge.

Annual memorial services for Robert Russa Moton, Tuskegee's second president, were held in the institute chapel on Sunday evening, December 9. Tributes to Dr. Moton's memory and reviews of his noteworthy achievements were contributed by three faculty members who worked with him during his nineteen years at Tuskegee. Mrs. B. B. Walcott, executive secretary of the Tuskegee Institute Chapter of the American Red Cross, described Dr. Moton's contribution in the field of education. Coach Cleve L. Abbott told of his human side; and Mrs. Laura R. Daly, one of the first Jeanes teachers and now extension agent in Macon county, Alabama, discussed Dr. Moton's interest and activity in rural life.

Special music, including Dr. Moton's favorite selections, was featured by the Tuskegee Choir, William L. Dawson conducting, with Sgt. Otis D. Wright of the Tuskegee Army Air Field as soloist.

In this first annual observance it was decided to make the program an Institute family affair.

Principal speaker at the Tuskegee Farmers Conference in December was Dr. Arthur F. Raper, analyst, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington, D. C. According to Dr. Raper, the coming mechanization in cotton farming is going to solve some of the South's "old economic and social problems and create new ones."

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In reviewing progress of experiments with the mechanical cotton picker, Dr. Raper showed that the cost of picking a bale mechanically is $5.26 as compared to $39.41 for hand picking at $2.50 per hundred. As a solution of the problem created by displacement of farm laborers, Dr. Raper sees an increase in non-farm employment in the South or a shift to other crops.

An orthopedic nursing institute for graduate nurses was conducted at the John A. Andrew Memorial Hospital, January 21-31. The staff of instructors included Dr. John W. Chenault, medical director and director of orthopedics at the John A. Andrew Memorial Hospital; Dr. Frank E. Steele, Miss Lois Olmstead, consultant, Joint Orthopedic Nursing Advisory Service, New York City; Mrs. Viola Terrell White; Miss Elizabeth Campbell; and other field specialists. The institute was held under the auspices of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and the Joint Orthopedic Nursing Advisory Service, and the program was devoted to a wide variety of lectures, demonstrations, ward practice, and observation in orthopedic nursing procedures.

Chaplain C. A. Chazeaud has announced that the annual Ministers Conference at HAMPTON INSTITUTE, suspended last year because of wartime travel restrictions, will take place this year from June 24 to June 28.

An interdenominational undertaking, the Ministers Conference at Hampton has for over thirty years annually provided a series of seminars on Bible study, preaching, church music, public worship, and church-community projects for hundreds of ministers and religious leaders of all denominations.

The following religious leaders are expected to attend the 1946 conference: Dr. Henry Smith Leiper, executive secretary of the World Council of Churches; Bishop W. Y. Bell of Cordele, Ga.; Dr. Richard McKinney of Storer college; the Rev. Theodore Adams of Richmond, Va.; Dr. Harry B. Richardson of Tuskegee Institute; and Dr. J. W. Nicholoson of Virginia Theological college.

Religious emphasis week was observed at the college January 7-13 under the leadership of Charles M. Jones, minister to the Presbyterian church in Chapel Hill, N. C. Theme of the 1946 observance was "The meaning of the Christian faith for life today."

Oscar D. Peele of Philadelphia, Pa., a senior in the department of building construction at the college, has been awarded first prize in a competition conducted at the college recently for plans for the postwar nursery school project of the Hampton Community Center Board, a civic organization in Hampton, Va. Second and third places were awarded to Herman S. Davis of Oxford, N. C., and Jesse R. Hammons of St. Louis, Mo.

The school observed its seventy-eighth birthday January 26-27 in traditional Found-

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er's Day exercises on the campus. Although Hampton opened its doors as an educational institution on April 1, 1868, it is a custom at the college to commemorate its establishment each year during the week-end preceding the birth of its founder, Samuel Chapman Armstrong, who was born on January 30, 1839.

Duke Ellington became an honorary member of the Omicron Social Club of the college on January 5 during a formal dinner given for the Duke and his performers following their concert in Ogden Hall earlier in the evening. The scroll of membership was presented to Mr. Ellington by Clarence Cooper of Washington, N. C., head of the Omicrons.

The college mourns the death of two persons intimately associated with the institution for over forty years, both of whom died on January 6. They were Jean Gilman, 69, director of the division of trades and industries, and Mrs. Helen Ogden Purves, 76, widow of Alexander Purves, a former treasurer of the Institute. Residing in New York City at the time of her death, Mrs. Purves was the daughter of Robert Curtis Ogden, at one time chairman of the board of trustees of the college. Her husband was vice-president of the Fidelity Trust Company in Philadelphia and treasurer of the school at the time of his death in 1905. Her son, Robert Ogden Purves, was associate treasurer and treasurer of Hampton Institute from 1929 to 1942.

Recent speakers at ATLANTA UNIVERSITY and MOREHOUSE COLLEGE have been Dr. Melville J. Herskovits, chairman of the department of anthropology at Northwestern university; Dr. Maximo M. Kalaw, Filipino educator and author; William M. Cooper, director of extension at Hampton Institute; George W. Crockett, executive director of the UAW-CIO; and John L. Webb of Hot Springs, Arkansas, one of the leading Negro philanthropists.

Pauli Murray, LL.B., cum laude 1944, of the HOWARD UNIVERSITY law school, was sworn in as deputy attorney general of the state of California on January 2. Miss Murray spent the academic year 1944-45 at the University of California School of Jurisprudence where she earned her master's degree in law. She was admitted to the bar of the state of California in October, 1945, on motion of Attorney General Robert Kenny, to whose staff she has now been appointed. Miss Murray is the first Negro to serve as a deputy attorney general in California.

Fourth district meeting of the Mississippi Association of Teachers in Colored Schools was held at the OKOLONO INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL in December. Dr. H. Council Trenholm, executive secretary of the American Teachers Association, addressed the meeting.

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Editorials

FEPC Filibuster Shows the Way

AS this is written, the filibuster on the FEPC bill in the senate appears to be going strong despite the fact that supporters of the bill have discussed longer daily sessions and are circulating a petition for cloture.

FEPC may or may not pass the senate, but the lessons in its presence on the floor are clear. The senate of the United States of America, sometimes called the highest deliberative body in the world, is still at the mercy of any small band of men which chooses to deny any measure the right to be heard and voted upon on its merits.

What is being debated in the senate is not the virtues or vices of a Fair Employment Practices Commission. Nothing is being debated. Talk is going on hour after hour to *prevent* the discussion of the bill on its merits. The senate voted on January 17, 49-17, to take up discussion of S.101, the FEPC bill. Thus, 49 senators — half of the body — expressed a desire that the bill be brought up. But a small group from the Southern states (and largely from the states where the poll tax is still in effect) have determined that the bill shall not be discussed and brought to a vote. They are filibustering.

It is intolerable that the will of the majority of the people as expressed through their representatives shall be thwarted by less than a score of men. It is unthinkable that this country can assume moral leadership in behalf of a democratic world as long as such men can be elected by a highly restricted ballot and undemocratic methods in the elections. As long as we have the poll tax, the functioning of the so-called "white primary" in the South, and the questionable registration practices, we shall have filibusters and rule by a bigoted and arrogant minority.

Whether FEPC wins or loses it has become patent that this system must go. It has become apparent also, that methods must be devised by the senate to prevent filibusters. Equally apparent is the need in the House for a better rule than the present discharge petition requiring 218 signatures. America cannot do business—democratically—on the present basis.

We Take A Bow

IN 1943 *The Crisis* published a short story entitled, "On Saturday the Sirens Sound at Noon," by Ann Petry. It was an outstanding short story and the office opinion on its merits was unanimous. An executive of Houghton Mifflin read the story and asked Miss Petry if she had any ideas on a novel. She had. She submitted several chapters of a novel and was awarded a $2,400 fellowship to finish it.

This month Houghton Mifflin is publishing *The Street,* Miss Petry's first novel. *The Crisis* joins in the congratulations to this talented young writer. We take pardonable pride in the fact that the piece which attracted the attention of the publishers appeared in this magazine. It takes us back to 1921, when *The Crisis* published the first poem by Langston Hughes, "The Negro Speaks of Rivers." One of the functions of this magazine, since its first appearance in 1910, has been the encouragement of Negro writers. We are proud of Langston Hughes. We salute Ann Petry and wish her luck. Our pages will continue to be open to aspiring and talented young writers.

Out of Mississippi

ALMOST unbelievable news comes out of Mississippi. It is that the state educators have wrought some magic by which they have persuaded the state officials that salaries of white and colored teachers must be equalized. To that end a bill is to be introduced in the current session of the state legislature.

Mississippi took this step, of course, only because of the victories the legal staff of the NAACP has been winning in the courts of various states in the past seven years. The first decisive action came in 1939 when the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in the case of the Norfolk teachers that a separate salary scale for white and colored teachers was unconstitutional. Thereafter followed court victories in a number of localities, with substantial additions to the paychecks of Negro teachers.

The final blow came with the decision of another U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals in the Susie Morris case arising in Little Rock, Ark. That opinion held that the so-called merit scale, without differentiation as to color, but with colored teachers always at the bottom of the scale, was also unconstitutional. At this, even Mississippi decided the time had come to act. Besides, it had been discovered that a Negro teacher had been found in the state with unimpeachable qualifications who was willing to act as plaintiff in a suit. Not wishing to have its practices slapped down by a U. S. court decree, Mississippi decided to equalize salaries voluntarily, so that it could not be said that Negroes had forced the issue.

Hats off to the Mississippi white and Negro teachers who brought this about! Hats off to Thurgood Marshall and the NAACP legal staff whose victories make the darkest state see the light!

Write your Senators and Congressmen to support FEPC

Countee Cullen

THE death of Countee Cullen in January was a great loss to American Negroes and to American and world literature. Here was a poet who never reached his full flower, a man who charmed and even hypnotized the world since first he set words upon paper, yet who was taken away just as he had laid the foundations for an enduring structure.

Who can forget his pure lyrics? Who can put away the delight in his first volume, *Color?* Who, among those who knew him, can forget the gentle, kindly, friendly spirit who saw beauty and set it down, who penetrated sham and who put in flowing words, the hopes, hurts, fears, delights, frustrations, and serene confidence of his people?

America has lost a great voice, his people a great and understanding spirit.

Alabama, Too

THE Democratic State Committee of Alabama has met and formally stricken out the "white" requirement for voters in the primaries in that state, thus bowing to the mandate of the United States Supreme Court in the Texas primary case, decided April 3, 1944. This victory, achieved by attorneys of the NAACP, may yet prove to be the most sweeping in the battle for full citizenship rights for American Negroes.

Texas has obeyed the court. Arkansas has hesitantly climbed on the bandwagon. A Florida federal court has ruled that Negroes may not be barred from the primaries, and a federal court in Georgia has ruled likewise. It begins to look as though, except for the poll tax and certain registration tricks now under attack in the courts, that Negroes in increasing numbers will be voting in the Democratic primaries. The handwriting is on the wall for the race-hating senators and congressmen from the Deep South States. Also for governors and city and county officials. The New Day may not be here as yet, but it is definitely on its way.

Speaking of Representation

IN the hot fight now in progress to get the vote for the citizens of the District of Columbia, Congressman Hatton W. Sumners of Texas, chairman of the powerful House Rules committee, is a champion of suffrage for District residents. He says something about their great sacrifices "without representation." We are all for votes for the District, since one-fourth the population is Negro and must submit to the dictates of Southern Congressmen, but we ask Rep. Summers: "How about representation for the 900,000 Negroes of Texas?"

World Youth Meets For Peace

By Gloster B. Current

This article gives a lively description of the sessions and aims of the World Youth Conference which met in London last fall

THE youth of the world are on the march, not towards aggression, but towards peace. Interested in promoting world peace through mutual understanding and cooperation, more than 600 delegates and observers from youth organizations in 63 nations journeyed across continents to the World Youth Conference, called by the World Youth Council, held in London, England, October 29—November 10, 1945.

The World Youth Conference convened at a time when the soldiers of allied nations were on their way home from Europe. It met amid the bombed ruins of London, now in the throes of reconstruction. Youth coming from Communist, Socialist and Democratic-Capitalistic backgrounds met in an England which had just swung sharply to the "left" in the election of a Labour Government. It met at a time when that part of the world which so recently had been through the war was beginning the process of rehabilitation and "shifting" of political views.

The conference met while France was striving to arrive at a working basis for a government which would include DeGaulle and the Communist Thorez. Youth from conflicting backgrounds and opinions, such as the British and Dutch youth who came from countries holding colonial possessions, had to sit down with youth from their colonial possessions who were vehemently demanding independence.

The conference met while Indonesians were dying by the thousands from British and Allied bombs—bombs which were thwarting the Indonesians' bid for self-determination and independence from a Dutch Government which, ironically, had so recently been liberated from Nazi tyranny and oppression. The conference met while the vital question of atomic energy and the internationalization of the most destructive missile the world has ever known, the atom bomb, was being discussed by President Truman and Prime Minister Attlee.

Meeting in this atmosphere of international turmoil following in the wake of a great world conflict, the delegates sat down to enunciate a program which had for its broad goal assistance to the people of the United Nations, to help them attain and keep world peace.

Conference Organization

The World Youth Conference was well organized. A preparatory commission had met in London for several months and outlined the agenda.

Krongold, London

Two members of the Russian delegation. The girl is 23-year-old Rufina Gasheva, a Russian Air Force lieutenant who took part in 803 combat missions over Germany as a bombardier.

The program of the conference consisted of three sections: Part I: Youth Fights for Freedom and a Better World; Part II: The Post-War Needs of Youth; Part III: The Organization of International Youth Cooperation.

Each major section of the conference was opened by a plenary session at Seymour Hall. At the plenary sessions opening Parts I, II, and III delegates from large nations were selected to deliver fifteen-minute main addresses. In the afternoon plenary sessions, speakers from the other nations were allowed five minutes to discuss the topic. The principal addresses were usually delivered in the speaker's native language, but translations were available. Discussion speeches had to be translated into Russian, English, Spanish and French, before the assembly understood the salient points.

The World Youth Conference opened in Royal Albert Hall on Monday evening, October 29, with a pageantry unexcelled in recent years. As a delegate the writer was unable to see the procession, but the London *News Chronicle* describes the event thus:

> The procession, spotlighted until the proud banners shone like stars, was the most brilliant pageantry London has seen for many weary years. It was more than that: it was as though the audience witnessed, within the space of half an hour, the gallantry, allegiance and faith of millions of boys and girls who had to learn to be old before they left the schoolroom.

Principal speaker at the opening session was Sir Stafford Cripps, president of the Board of Trade, who called for youth to experiment to find the truth and urged them to continue exploration of the theory that "nations can live at peace with one another in the world."

Plenary Sessions

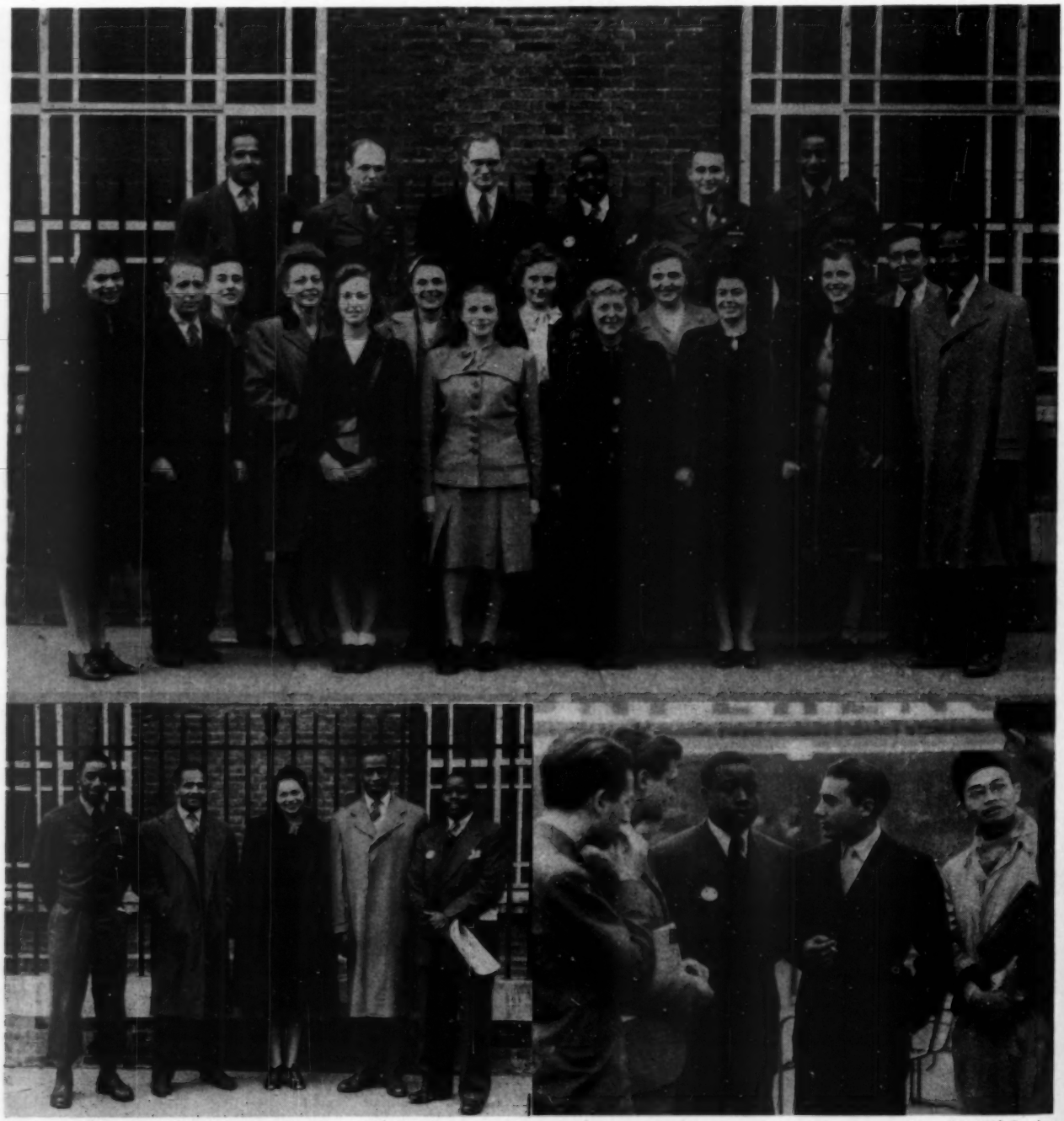
Opening speeches at the plenary sessions were made by Slovko Komar, chairman of the United League of Anti-Fascist Youth of Yugo-Slavia; J. Morawski of Poland; Bruce Vincent, representing the Glamorgan Youth Committee of Great Britain; C. Z. Chen, San Min Chur Youth Corps of China; Nikolai Mikhailov, of the Young Communist League of U.S.S.R., Pasteur Jean Joussellin, Secretary General of the French Boy Scouts, and Tom Neill, United Electrical Workers—CIO, United States.

Throughout the speeches ran the thought that youth had played a prominent part in the struggle against Fascist and Nazi aggression, that to youth belongs partly the task of rebuilding nations destroyed by war, that there must be provisions made for full employment of demobilized soldiers and servicemen. Finally, they recited a great need for a world-wide youth organization.

Mikhailov declared that in Russia there is no employment problem. "The main task of our people," said the Soviet delegation leader, "is to increase further the might of the Soviet state and to strengthen friendship with all peace-loving nations." Recognizing that differences exist in principles, forms and methods of work in youth organizations, the Russian felt, however, that these differences did not prevent "freedom-loving youth from establishing active cooperation during the war." Youth were brought together, he said, "by unity of aim, by deep mutual understanding, by the common desire to smash Fascism."

Six years of German occupation in Poland left it disorganized and devastated, said the Polish speaker Morawski. "Thousands of our youth leaders were murdered. Hundreds of thousands of orphans were deprived of their family life, millions of boys and girls have never known what it is to be young and happy. However, before the war the life of Polish youth was extremely hard,

DELEGATES TO WORLD YOUTH CONFERENCE



Krongold, London

The top picture shows members of the American delegation, with the exception of Miss Esther Cooper and Joseph Engel, chairman at committee meetings. In the picture at bottom, left, are Pfc. Browne of Detroit, Mich., now studying at London University; Alexander Mapp, Columbus, Ohio, Urban League youth director; Olivia P. Stokes, Baptist Center, 145th St. and Convent Ave., New York City; Rev. Russell M. Jones, Harmony Village, Va., Virginia Union University student, Richmond, Va.; and Gloster Current, elected to a provisional seat in the council, of Detroit, Mich. Bottom, right: Austrian, Spanish, American (Gloster Current), Mexican, Siamese, and Czech delegates to the conference.

in a backward and poor country, ruled by great landlords and international trusts." Morawski predicted: "We shall rebuild our country on a new basis without cartels and landlords. We have parted with the terrible past. We must transform our country into a modern State and make our people technically minded, a country in which the working-class will enjoy economic prosperity and the benefits of civilization."

Americans Disagree With Truman

Speaking for the American delegation, Tom Neill, answered the question on the minds of every delegate on the atomic bomb issue. Criticizing Truman's recent speech Neill said:

It would appear that our sole ownership of the manufacturing process of the atomic bomb has begun to create a type of isolationism in our foreign policy, an isolationism in which we, holding this modern "big stick" can sit as judge, jury and policeman on the rest of the world, throwing our weight to whichever side we choose at the particular moment.

We submit that sole ownership by the United States of the "secret" of the atomic bomb can only serve to create and intensify an armament race. If this policy is permitted to develop, it will undermine cooperative relations between the United States, Great Britain and the U.S.S.R., as well as France, China and all nations.

In Part II, the Post-War Needs of Youth, there were several brilliant and exciting speeches. Miss Elsa Graves, representing the National Industrial Council of the Y.W.C.A., outlined a postwar course to ensure security and full employment in her speech: "Employment and Reconversion—a Post-War Must." Miss Graves called for "widest use of the natural resources and our inventive genius" to achieve full production and full employment for all the people of the world.

Kitti Boomla, twenty-three-year-old native of Bombay, and graduate of London University, literally brought the house down at the plenary session on November 2, in her speech demanding freedom and independence for India and other colonies.

Miss Boomla scored her main points and received the biggest ovation from talk like this:

. . . the most difficult and almost superhuman task is of the youth in the colonies and dependent territories. The problem is a vast one. India, Africa, the Arab States, Burma, Malaya and Indonesia form a vast ocean of humanity, numbering millions of beings with vast natural wealth crying out to be developed for man's use. The satisfying of the post-war needs of our youth would keep the industries of the advanced countries busy for decades, if only our development were allowed. In these countries we have yet to secure opportunities of education. We have no health services. Millions of our youth die before they attain the age of 30. Our literacy is only 15%. The youth have no houses to live in—literally they live in the open, on the footpath and under the hedges. Housing is so short that 200,000 people are sleeping on the pavements of Bombay, the most well-known city of the British Empire. Right under the nose of the British Vice-Roy in New Delhi, children of ten and youths of fifteen and twenty work for 3 shillings a week (equivalent to 60 cents), with no clothing, no houses, to dig up stones from the quarries to build palaces.

Miss Boomla wound up her speech by stating that "if the post-war needs of youth are to be satisfied the precondition is democracy, freedom and the utilization of the world's resources to bring advanced economy to these regions."

Negro youth—the colored people of Africa, United States, Jamaica, and many other countries—was ably represented. In speeches from the floor, service on drafting commissions, and as officers of their delegations, they played an important part at the conference although no opportunity to make one of the principal speeches was given a colored delegate.

Krongold, London

Pictured here are, left to right, Miss Esther Cooper, executive secretary Southern Negro Youth Congress and chairman of U. S. delegation panel on colonies; she was elected to council of WFDY; Alice Driest, publicity director American delegation; and Miss V. Kanuga, Indian delegate.

There were five Negroes in the United States delegation: Esther Cooper, executive secretary, Southern Negro Youth Congress; Russell Jones, National Intercollegiate Christian Council (Student YMCA-YWCA), a divinity student at Virginia Union; Alexander Mapp, representing the National Urban League; Olivia Pearl Stokes, N. Y. Baptist Educational Center; and the writer, representing the Youth Councils of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The United States delegation enroute to England divided itself up into commissions aboard the Queen Mary and wrote its platform for submission to the conference. This platform served as a basis for participation by the United States delegates in all discussions and was the substance of main speeches given by U. S. delegates. Esther Cooper served as chairman of the panel which prepared the U. S. platform on self-determination of people. Olivia Stokes chaired the panel on citizenship and democracy.

Russell Jones was elected secretary of the United States delegation and served in that capacity throughout the entire conference and aboard the ship enroute to England. Alexander Mapp chaired the discussions for Part III of the conference and presented the report to the final plenary session. Esther Cooper and the writer served on draft committees within commissions. These committees drafted resolutions based on commission discussions. Olivia Stokes made an impassioned plea on the floor of one plenary session against government aid to religious schools, which helped to defeat an amendment proposed by the British youth.

In the allotment of eight places to the United States for membership on the council, the executive body of the World Federation of Democratic Youth which was created at the conference, three Negroes from the United States were elected—Russell Jones, Esther Cooper, and the writer (elected provisionally).

World Federation Set Up

One of the most important accomplishments of the conference was the adoption of a constitution setting up a World Federation of Democratic Youth. Headquarters of the new World Youth Federation are to be in Paris. M. Guy DeBoisson, a young French deputy, was elected chairman of the council, governing body of the Federation. Other officers are: vice-chairmen Elsa Graves, U.S.A.; Nikolai Mikhailov, U.S.S.R.; Penry Jones, G.B.; C. Z. Chen, China; secretaries: Herbert Williams, Australia; Kutty Hookham, World Youth Council, London; Svend Beyer-Pedersen, Denmark; treasurer: Frances amon, U.S.A.; members-at-large: Stefan Ignar, Poland; Slavko Komar, Yugoslavia; Chen Chia-Kang, China; Jiri Hajek, Czechoslovakia; S. Sylver, West Africa;

(*Continued on page 60*)

It's Only Make-Believe

By Phil Carter

Negroes complain about their stereotyped role in Hollywood movies and the failure of the industry to employ them, with a few exceptions, in other than menial positions. A remedy for this situation is suggested in the following article

A HOLLYWOOD executive once told me that there are two news capitals in the country, and mentioned them in the order of importance—Hollywood and Washington.

He was in effect telling a story of the American people. He was saying that America, as it is often said of beautiful women, is more concerned about its face than its brains. For Hollywood is indeed the carefully groomed profile of the nation.

What he failed to say, however, is that as far as effect on our daily lives is concerned, Hollywood, through the medium of two gadgets, the camera and the projector, outranks Washington and all other world capitals. No better illustration of this can be cited than the fact that foreign industrialists, manufacturing consumer goods for sale to their own people, consider Hollywood their number-one enemy. They know that if Betty Grable is shown in a Paris theatre driving an American-made convertible, French automobile makers are going to lose several thousand sales of French-made cars to French women.

Recognizing the vast importance of the motion picture industry as a mind conditioner on any subject, it is therefore right and proper that Negroes and other minorities should take an avid interest in Hollywood's doings. It becomes more imperative at this time when the world is shaping its destiny for centuries to come.

In the past, Negro interest in the motion picture industry has restricted itself to performers only. This interest has been registered in two phases:

"Little Farina" Era

One era began with a genuine pride in and favoritism toward the ivory-toothed grins of Little Farina and Sunshine Sammy. This was the period which permitted Stepin Fetchit to amass and lose a small fortune by portraying all that is repugnant to Negroes in their own makeup. This era came to an abrupt end when Hattie McDaniel was presented an "Oscar" by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for her Mammy portrayal in the epic film, *Gone With the Wind*.

Since then the Negro press and public have been at loggerheads with Hollywood. The gauntlet was thrown down in the summer of 1942 when the Los Angeles *Sentinel* and *Tribune*, led by their respective editors, Leon Washington, and Almena Davis, picketed the downtown showing of 20th Century-Fox's *Tales of Manhattan* at Loew's State Theatre. They claimed that the portrayals of Paul Robeson, Ethel Waters, Rochester, the Hall Johnson Choir, and others, were of an undesirable Uncle Tom nature. Actually, by that action Negroes came nearer than ever before or since to getting their point over to the movie moguls. The budding victory, however, died aborning when the Negro press became embroiled in an internecine fight over strategy.

Today the situation is hardly better. There is a wide divergence of opinion as to which is the best course to pursue in seeking to gain recognition from Hollywood. In order to devise a program for the integration of Negroes, we must first know something about the film-producing mechanism and the inner machinations of Hollywood.

Whether inadvertently or by design, Hollywood has succeeded in almost completely excluding Negroes from its inner sanctum. One or two Negro writers have had short contracts extended them; musicians have created and scored background music; and white dance directors have called on Negroes to assist them in staging routine. There may also be several wardrobe women and hairdressers on call whenever Negro actors work. One set designer, Ralph Vaughn, is still employed by MGM; and the writer's tenure as a publicist, represent essentially the race's activity behind the camera, where, incidentally, most of the money is made.

Employment of Negroes

If asked a specific question about the employment of Negroes, anyone of the executive producers is likely to reply that had qualified Negroes applied for any one of the hundreds of jobs found in Hollywood, they would have received the same consideration as white job-seekers. That is, providing the unions would have accepted them. This is both true and false as Negroes have learned repeatedly in their efforts to gain footholds in other industries. There are more ways to keep a man from actually going to work besides rejecting his application.

In regard to the unions, collusion between the producer and the Willie Bioff brand of AFL unionism was clearly revealed in the Federal criminal trials a few years back, which resulted in the jailing of that upholder of the rights of the working man in Hollywood. It is reasonable to suppose that

Louis Armstrong in this scene from "Cabin in the Sky," with Rita Christian, right, and Artie Young, left, is doing the kind of "mugging" for the camera that is becoming very unpopular with Negro movie-goers.

if the moguls could reach an agreement with union officials on the matter of wages and hours for white men, that they would have had little difficulty in reaching an agreement on the minor point of excluding Negroes from any one of the 50,000 well-paying jobs in the industry.

There is much truth in the hypothetical statement of the producers that Negroes have not sought anything from the industry except jobs as actors. Negroes have fallen hook, line, and sinker for Hollywood's highly scientific ballyhoo. They have gone overboard in digesting the glamorous reports of the salaries of the stars, prattle about their luxurious homes, and their scintillating mode of life, much of which is conjured up out of whole cloth by the industry's smart publicity boys.

Usually when Negro protests have been made they have been directed against a particular stereotyped portrayal or philosophy shown on the screen. This is like whipping a dead horse. Negroes have never concerned themselves with the other less glamorous phases of movie making, such as screen analysis, specific effects, carpentry, set designing, film editing, photography, directing, producing, etc. The race seems to have developed a genius for approaching a matter, such as an actor's use or non-use of dialect, after it has run the gamut of a score of technical departments which do not include a single Negro employee.

Both the strikers and the producers know that if any particular group has a majority of its members sprinkled throughout the various technical and handling deparments through which a film must travel, that anything can happen. For example, I am wondering what would happen to a watermelon-eating scene in a million-dollar musical if the sound department, staffed by returning white and Negro GIs, would take offense at such a film stereotype. They would blandly tell the producer that unfortunately the actor's voices would not synchronize and that he had better think up another sequence.

The Box Office Talks

Another score on which Negroes have failed to articulate themselves is in presenting the cold facts regarding the extent to which they subscribe to films. In other words the pleas about what ough or ought not be filmed regarding the race have not been interpreted in terms of the box-office, at whose shrine all of Hollywood worships.

At the height of the war the Bureau of Internal Revenue released tax figures which indicated that motion picture attendance had hit the all-time high of one hundred million a week. Assuming that ten million of these patrons were Negroes, at the average ticket price of 30¢ each week, they were spending $3,000,000 for motion pictures. That certainly is a fitting rebuttal to those who have claimed that Negroes, having invested no money in the industry, have no right to question what went into the product. Moreover, the argument is strengthened with the realization that Negroes and others at the bottom of the economic heap attend movies proportionately more than whites to whom various other forms of diversion and entertainment are open. Denied access to beaches, golf courses, swimming pools, skating rinks, and bowling facilities, and having few country places to dash off to on week-ends, *there is no place for Negroes to go but to the movies.*

Pictured at the top is a scene from one of the few war pictures which showed Negroes in favorable Navy sequences, Twentieth Century Fox's "Crash Dive" in which Negro actor Ben Carter was given a creditable role. Carter is shown here (on the right) with Tyrone Power and James Gleason. The bottom picture is a scene from the "Ox Bow Incident," filmed from a story by Lamarr Trotti. This marked the first use of the film against lynching. Anthony Guinn, Mexican actor, and Dana Andrews are shown in the center background as the mob in the foreground completes arrangements for its "necktie party."

Theatre ownership is another score on which Negroes have missed the boat. It is true that penetrating this field would mean bucking some of the richest business combinations in the world, concerns which have heretofore enjoyed a virtual monopoly of both film production and exhibition. This was once true of the liquor dispensing business, but when Negro businessmen became impressed with the high rate of profit to be derived from saloon-operation, they found ways and means of getting into it.

As a further inducement to recalcitrant Negro businessmen, it might be pointed out that a film in a neighborhood house has a

(*Continued on page* 61)

Books by Negro Authors in 1945

By Arthur B. Spingarn

THIS tenth annual resume of books and pamphlets (like those which have appeared previously in *The Crisis*) lists all the works in English written by Negroes and published in 1945 that have come to the attention of the compiler. It also includes a few works published in 1944 which reached him too late to be included in last year's resume. It is necessarily incomplete and as heretofore, omits mention of books in foreign languages, a number of which are important and merit review. No comments are made on books that have already been reviewed in *The Crisis* (other than to indicate where such reviews may be found), on books which the compiler has not read, or on the pamphlets separately listed.

This annual summary, with paragraph reviews, is offered for the guidance of CRISIS readers. Only those books are mentioned which have come to the attention of the compiler

I. BOOKS

BONTEMPS, ARNA and JACK CONROY. They seek a City. New York, Doubleday, Doran and Company. XVII+266 pp. $2.75.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for December, 1945, at page 362.

BONTEMPS, ARNA. We have Tomorrow. Boston, Houghton Mifflin Company. 131 pp. $2.00.

Biographies of twelve young Negro men and women who have achieved success in different fields, written with unusual freshness and charm. Though intended primarily for younger readers, their elders will enjoy it as well. Illustrated with photographs.

BROOKS, GWENDOLYN. A Street in Bronzeville. New York, Harper and Brothers. 57 pp. $2.00.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for December, 1945, at page 362.

BROOKS, WALTER HENDERSON. The Pastor's Voice. A collection of poems. Washington, D. C., The Associated Publishers, Inc. XXVIII+391 pp. $2.15.

The collected verse of the late venerable and beloved pastor of the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church of Washington, D. C., chiefly religious, correct but uninspired, with a life and eulogy by Carter G. Woodson.

BROWN, AARON. An evaluation of the accredited secondary schools for Negroes in the South. Chicago, The Author. 240 pp. $2.25.

A careful and exhaustive study of the subject, submitted as a doctoral thesis at the University of Chicago.

BULLOCK, BENJAMIN F. Practical Farming for the South. Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press. 510 pp. $2.50.

A handbook adequately covering every phase of life on a farm in the South with practical and full information on the "how, when and why," with copious illustrations and diagrams.

Beatrice Griffith of Los Angeles, Calif., winner of the non-fiction literary fellowship ($2400) awarded by Houghton Mifflin Company to finance work in progress. Miss Griffith is working on an untitled study of Mexican Americans.

BURLEY, DAN. Dan Burley's Original Handbook of Harlem Jive. New York, The Author. 160 pp. $1.00.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for June, 1945, at page 179.

BURNHAM, FREDERICK RUSSELL. Taking Chances. Los Angeles, Haynes Corporation. 293 pp.

CROSS SECTION, 1945. A collection of New American Writing. Edited by Edwin Seaver. New York, L. B. Fischer. 362 pp. $3.50.

Contains three short poems by Gwendolyn Brooks, a long poem by Robert E. Hayden, and a further chapter of Richard Wright's BLACK BOY.

DANQUAH, J. B. The Akan Doctrine of God. A fragment of Gold Coast Ethics and Religion. London, Lutterworth Press. 206 pp. 15 shillings.

The third part of an exhaustive study, by a Native, of Gold Coast ethics and religion; the other parts were destroyed by fire. A valuable source book based on original research by an observer trained in modern methods of scholarship.

DAVIDSON, HENRY DAMON "Inchining along" or the life and work of an Alabama farm boy. An autobiography. Nashville, National Publication Company. 177 pp. $2.50.

Although not well written and poorly organized, the book has value as source material.

DRAKE, ST. CLAIR and CAYTON, HORACE R. Black Metropolis. A study of Negro life in a northern city. New York, Harcourt Brace Company. XXXIV+809 pp. $5.00.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for January, 1946, at page 16.

DU BOIS, W. E. B. Color and Democracy: Colonies and Peace. New York, Harcourt Brace and Company. 143 pp. $2.00.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for July, 1945, at page 204.

DU BOIS, W. E. B. and GUY B. JOHNSON, Editors. Encyclopedia of the Negro. Preparatory Volume with reference lists and reports. New York, The Phelps-Stokes Fund, Inc. 208 pp. $2.75.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for May, 1945, at page 146.

DOUGLASS, FREDERICK. Selections from his writings. Edited with an introduction by Philip S. Foner, Ph.D. New York, International Publishers. 95 pp. $.35.

An excellent selection with the best short life of Douglass in print at a price which makes it available to everyone. Dr. Foner is to publish shortly an almost complete collection of Douglass writings, a work which will fill a much needed want.

EVERETT, SYBLE BIRD. Adventures with life. Boston, Meador Publishing Company. $2.00.

An autobiography.

GOVERN, RENA GREENLEE. Democracy's Task. N.p.,n.d. 36 pp. $1.50.

A collection of mediocre verse.

HARGRAVE, CARRIE GUERPHAN. African primitive life . . . as I saw it in Sierra Leone, British West Africa. Wilmington, N. C., The Author. 115 pp. $2.25.

Two-thirds of this small book is devoted to a description of native life in Sierra Leone where the author served as principal of a girls' school. A good simple introduction to the subject.

HAWKINS, CHARLES C. with Herbert J. Stack and Walter A. Cutter. Careers in safety. Choosing a vocation in the field of accident prevention. New York, Funk & Wagnalls Company. 152 pp. $1.50.

Practical advice and information on the growing field of accident prevention, detailing the jobs available and how to go about getting them.

HERCULES, ERIC E. L. Democracy Limited. Cleveland, Ohio, Central Publishing House. 183 pp. $2.50.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for August, 1945, at page 237.

HIMES, CHESTER B. If He Hollers Let Him Go. New York, Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc. 249 pp. $2.50.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for December, 1945, at page 361.

HILL, CHARLES LEANDER. The Loci Communes of Philip Melanchton, with a critical introduction by the translator. Boston, Meador Publishing Company. 274 pp. $3.00.

A translation of this Reformation classic with an extensive and learned introduction by the translator. A praiseworthy example of scholarship.

HOWARD, ALICE HENRIETTA. Onion to Orchard. Poems. New York, The Williams-Frederick Press. 32 pp. $.75.

Minor verse exhibiting intense race pride.

HUGHES, LANGSTON. In RADIO DRAMA IN ACTION. Twenty-five plays of a changing world. Edited by Erick Barnouw. New York, Farrar & Rinehart, Inc. 397 pp. $3.00.

Contains Langston Hughes' radio drama, BOOKER T. WASHINGTON IN ATLANTA, written on the occasion of the B. T. Washington stamp by the Post Office Department, and also, Roi Ottley's radio drama, THE NEGRO DOMESTIC from the well-known radio series, "New World A'Comin."

IMBERT, D. I. The stranger within our gates. A South American's impression of America's social problems. New Orleans, Watson Brothers Press. 102 pp. $1.50.

The author, for forty years a resident of the United States, gives his views of some phases of American life in fictional form.

IMES, WILLIAM LLOYD. In a Treasury of Great Sermons. Selected by Daniel A. Poling. New York, Greenberg Publisher. 198 pp. $1.50.

A collection of 25 sermons covering a period from the Sermon on the Mount to today including Dr. Imes' scholarly and eloquent FAITH Versus SUCCESS.

JACKSON, JESSE. Call me Charley. New York, Harper & Brothers. 156 pp. $2.00.

An interesting and well told story for youngsters between 10 and 14 about a Negro boy alone in a white community, written objectively and without sentimentality.

JOHNSON, JOHN H. and BURNS, BEN. The Best of Negro Humor. Chicago, Negro Publishing Co., Inc. 106 pp. $.50.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for November, 1945, at page 330.

JONES, H. A. B. Africa Today and Tomorrow. New York, African Academy of Arts & Research. 82 pp. $1.00.

LAY MY BURDEN DOWN. A Folk History of Slavery. Edited by B. A. Botkin. Chicago, University of Chicago Press. 286 pp. $3.50.

Narratives from the Slaves Narrative Collection of the Federal Writers Project, told by the survivors in what purports to be their own language of their recollections of slavery and emancipation.

LOGAN, RAYFORD. The Senate and the Versailles Mandate System. Washington, D. C., The Minorities Publishers. 112 pp. $2.00.

A detailed analysis of the discussions in the U. S. Congress from 1917 to 1920 on the subject of Mandates with the author's interpretations, being chapters from his forthcoming larger work on THE AFRICAN MANDATES IN WORLD POLITICS.

LOGAN, RAYFORD. The Negro and the Postwar World. A World Primer. Washington, D. C. The Minorities Publishers. 95 pp. $1.50.

An attempt to set forth in simple form the salient facts about the present status of the Negro in Africa, the West Indies, the Pacific Islands, Latin America and the United States; intended primarily for high school students.

MALONEY, ARNOLD H. Pathways to Democracy. Boston, Meador Publishing Company. 589 pp. $2.50.

MELCHOR, BEULAH H. The Land Possessions of Howard University, Washington, D. C. Washington, The Author. 85 pp. $2.00.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for May, 1945, at page 146.

MELLON, MATTHEW T. Early American views of Negro slavery. Boston, Meador Publishing Company. 164 pp. $2.00.

MORRISON, WILLIAM LORENZO. Dark Rhapsody. Poems. New York, Henry Harrison. 62 pp. $1.50.

A first volume of verse by a young poet handicapped by illness.

MURPHY, BEATRICE M. Love is a Terrible Thing. New York, The Hobson Book Press. 66 pp. $1.50.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for September, 1945, at page 267.

THE NEGRO ARTIST COMES OF AGE. A national survey of contemporary Negro artists. Albany, N. Y., Institute of History and Art. N. P. $1.10.

A catalogue of living Negro artists, with thumb nail sketches of 41 artists with their portraits and a repreesntative reproduction of their work of each of them and an introduction by Dr. Alain Locke.

ONE AMERICA. The history, contributions and present problems of our racial and national minorities. Edited by Francis J. Brown and Joseph S. Roucek. New York, Prentice-Hall, Inc. 717 pp. $5.00.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for September, 1945, at page 266.

PERKINS, MINNIE LOUISE. A String of Pearls. Chicago, The Author. 17 pp. $.50.

Pleasant verses by a 14-year-old poet which show considerable promise.

PITTMAN, EVELYN LaRUE. Rich Heritage. Oklahoma City, Harlow Publishing Company. 48 pp. $1.50.

Songs about American Negro heroes with music and brief biographies by the author. Illustrated.

PORTER, DOROTHY B. North American Negro poetry. A bibliographical check list of their writings 1760-1944. Hattiesburg, Miss. 90 pp. $2.40.

A creditable attempt to meet a much needed want, unfortunately marred by numerous misprints occasioned by the failure of the publisher to submit proof sheets to the editor.

POWELL, A. CLAYTON Sr. Riots and Ruins. New York, Richard Smith. 171 pp. $2.00.

A version of the causes of race riots with suggestions for their prevention by the Pastor Emeritus of the Abyssinian Baptist Church.

POWELL, W. H. R. A Supervised Life. Philadelphia, The Author. 145 pp. $2.50.

Fourteen sermons interpreting the Twenty Third Psalm by the pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church, Philadelphia.

(*Continued on page* 59)

Harold R. Stovall

Photograph of Mrs. James Weldon Johnson and Carl Van Vechten compiling original manuscripts and other valuable literary material of the late James Weldon Johnson for the Yale University James Weldon Johnson Memorial Collection of Negro Literature (*See page* 11 *of the January* CRISIS).

Ann Petry Talks About First Novel

Peter S. Kaufmann

Mrs. Ann Petry

ONE day in October, 1943, I was going through a batch of manuscripts when I picked out one with the teasing title "On Saturday the Siren Sounds at Noon." It turned out upon examination to be a short story by Ann Petry. I had not known the name before, but a glance at the first paragraph told me that the woman was a writer. I went to my editor with enthusiastic praise for the story and we both agreed that it was "good stuff" and should be printed. We scheduled the story for our December, 1943, issue. This was the first published story of a young writer of remarkable talent. Further interest was aroused in the story when one of the editors of the publishing house of Houghton Mifflin asked for copies of the December issue.

This was my first introduction to the writings of Mrs. Petry. But I never met Mrs. Petry until the winter of 1946, almost three years later. In the meantime, she had submitted for publication a long-short story on the Harlem riot of August, 1943. Though a brilliant psychological analysis of the frustrations, the pent-up emotions, and the tensions which provoked the outbreak, the story was too long for *The Crisis* and we had regretfully to suggest that it be offered elsewhere. In May, 1945, however, we carried her study in affection, "Olaf and his Girl Friend." And in November we published "Like a Winding Sheet."

Mrs. Petry thus joins that company of brilliant young writers, Langston Hughes, et al., who first received publication in the pages of *The Crisis*.

After one of the Mifflin editors had read "On Saturday the Siren Sounds at Noon," he asked Mrs. Pettry if she were working on a novel. She was and the following year she submitted the first five chapters and a complete synopsis of *The Street*. She was then awarded the $2400 Houghton Mifflin Literary Fellowship for 1945, This enabled her to devote the next ten months to finishing the novel.

The Street was published in January and its appearance gave me an opportunity to meet Mrs. Petry. My appointment was for 11:30 in the offices of Richard Condon in East 57th Street, just off Fifth Avenue. Mrs. Petry met me cordially and was eager to record that her first published story in *The Crisis* had given her reputation.

In person Mrs. Petry is of medium height, pleasant manners and intercourse, and possessed of a sense of companionable good humor. She has a creamy-brown complexion; alert, smiling eyes; and a soft cultivated voice. We entered at once into the intimacy of talk and the first thing I wanted to know was how she had come to write her first published story.

"Did you have any particular message in that story? What were you trying to show?" I queried.

"Nothing in particular. I wrote it simply as a story. But it came to be written in this way. One Saturday I was standing on the 125th Street platform of the IRT subway when a siren suddenly went off. The screaming blast seemed to vibrate inside people. For the siren seemed to be just above the station. I immediately noticed the reactions of the people on the platform. They were interesting, especially the frantic knitting of a woman seated on a nearby bench.

"I began wondering," continued Mrs. Petry, "how this unearthly howl would affect a criminal, a man hunted by the police. That was the first incident. The second was a tragedy I covered for my paper. There was a fire in Harlem in which two children had been burnt to death. Their parents were at work and the children were alone. I imagined their reactions when they returned home that night. I knew also that many Harlem parents, like Lilly Belle in the story, often left their children home alone while at work. Imaginatively combined the two incidents gave me my story."

I then asked her where she got her knowledge of the West Indian background for "Olaf and his Girl Friend." Many of her friends and acquaintances she explained are West Indians, and they often tell her stories about the islands and discuss West Indian customs.

"I wrote that story to show that there can be true affection among Negroes. That Negroes can love as deeply as anyone else. So

many people impute to Negroes an unhampered sensuality that I felt it time to tell the truth. Now the idea of Olaf's [the chief character in the story] seeking Belle Rose through the sailor's grapevine, I got from a friend.

"What writers have influenced you?" I asked.

"Really," replied Mrs. Petry, smiling, "I have read so many authors and so many books that I don't know. I have been an omnivorous reader since childhood. I was born and reared in a small town, and in a small town, you know, there is really nothing much to do except read."

I then asked her about her recently published novel, *The Street.*

"In *The Street* my aim is to show how simply and easily the environment can change the course of a person's life. For this purpose I have made Lindy Johnson an intelligent, ambitious, attractive woman with a fair degree of education. She lives in the squalor of 116th Street, but she retains her self-respect and fights to bring up her little son decently.

"I try to show why the Negro has a high crime rate, a high death rate, and little or no chance of keeping his family unit intact in large northern cities. There are no statistics in the book though they are present in the background, not as columns of figures but in terms of what life is like for people who live in over-crowded tenements.

"I tried to write a story that moves swiftly so that it would hold the attention of people who might ordinarily shy away from a so-called problem novel. And I hope that I have created characters who are real, believable, alive. For I am of the opinion that most Americans regard Negroes as types—not quite human—who fit into a special category and I wanted to show them as people with the same capacity for love and hate, for tears and laughter, and the same instincts for survival possessed by all men."

Mrs. Ann Petry was born in Old Saybrook, Connecticut, and comes from a New England family that has specialized in some branch of chemistry for three generations. Her grandfather was a chemist; her father, an aunt, and an uncle are druggists. Mrs. Petry is herself a registered pharmacist, a graduate of the college of pharmacy of the University of Connecticut. It was while working as a registered pharmacists in the drugstores owned by her family in Old Saybrook and old Lyme that she began writing her first short stories.

If she had not married and gone to New York City to live, she would undoubtedly have continued her career as a pharmacist. Instead she sought and found jobs in New York that would give her an opportunity to write. She sold advertising space and wrote advertising copy for a Harlem weekly. She also edited the woman's page for a rival weekly, and covered general news stories.

While interviewing celebrities, covering political rallies, and three-alarm fires, and reporting on murders and all other forms of sudden death, she acquired an intimate and disturbing knowledge of Harlem and its ancient evil, housing; its tragic, broken families; its high death rate.

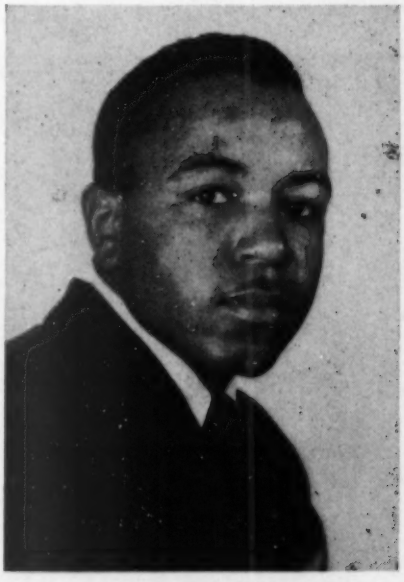
She spent nine months working on an experiment in education that was being conducted in one of the city's elementary schools and thus observed at firsthand the toll that segregated areas like Harlem exact in the twisting and warping of children's lives.

In addition to working on newspapers she has taught salesmanship, written children's plays, acted with an amateur theatrical group. She is a former member of the now famous American Negro Theatre. She has studied painting, and plays the piano for her own amusement, claiming to be the least promising pupil of a well-known composer and pianist. At present she is executive secretary of Negro Women Incorporated, a civic-minded organization which keeps a watchful eye on local and national legislation.

James W. Ivy

California Student Named To West Point After Making Highest Mark in U. S. Exam

When nineteen-year-old David K. Carlisle of Los Angeles, California, reports to West Point in July he will be the first Negro from that state to enter the famous military academy.



David K. Carlisle

Carlisle was appointed by Congresswoman Helen Gahagan Douglas (Dem., Calif.), wife of the movie star Melvin Douglas, because of his high scholastic record. On August 22, 1944, Carlisle was appointed a second alternate candidate to West Point by Thomas Ford, fourteenth California district, after taking competitive civil-service examinations on July 29, 1944. One of the two fellows ahead of him on the list (on the basis of the examination) accepted, and there was therefore no vacancy for Carlisle's admission that year.

Carlisle's scholastic record has been consistently brilliant. When his family lived in West Los Angeles, young Carlisle attended the Brockton Avenue elementary school with his two cousins, the only Negroes in the school at that time. In A5 grade he was voted, by the students of the fourth, fifth, and sixth grades, the school's outstanding boy and given the American Legion award for that year. Incidentally, his cousin, Walter Chase Edmonds, the only other Negro boy in the school, won second place. While in the B6 grade his family moved to Los Angeles and Carlisle was transferred to the Trinity Street elementary school.

From elementary school he went to the McKinley Junior High School where he became co-editor of *The Crossroads,* school paper. He was also president of the senior A class. In 1941 Carlisle entered Polytechnic high school, and graduated in two-and-one-half years. He majored in mathematics, science, English, and Spanish. Many honors came to Carlisle while a student at the Polytechnic high. He was editor of the school paper, the *Polytechnic Optimist;* president of the Boys' League; winner of the Spanish medal, given to the best student of non-Spanish origin after three years study of Spanish; and commencement speaker. A student-faculty vote placed Carlisle first on the Ephebian list for scholarship.

Carlisle maintained a straight A-average throughout his high school career. He was a one-year varsity baseball letterman and a member of the Lettermen's Club; winner of membership in the California Scholarship Federation; and elected a lifetime member of the Los Angeles High School Press Association.

After his graduation from Polytechnic high in 1944, two days before his seventeenth birthday, Carlisle entered the California Institute of Technology, majoring in electrical engineering. During his first term the Caltech student body appointed him to the board of directors of the student council as chairman of the freshman class. Another first-term honor was his appointment to the student body board of control, the only freshman on the board. The next term the students elected him to the board of directors as student representative-at-large.

Carlisle completed his sophomore year at Caltech in 1945 and then left to take a six-week course in English literature at the Los Angeles branch of the University of California in special preparation for the West Point competitive civil-service examinations, after receiving permission from Mrs. Helen Gahagan Douglas to take this examination. It was on the basis of the score made in this examination (the highest made in the entire country) that Carlisle was appointed to West Point by Mrs. Douglas.

For 'Those Who Serve'

Harlem's Salvation Army Servicemen's Club

HARLEM'S Salvation Army Servicemen's club, the largest unit of its kind in the country, recently broke into the news through a timely and humanitarian example of its pledge to serve all races and creeds working in the cause of freedom.

To the Far East, where Indonesians were fighting for freedom and against European imperialism, Indonesian seamen were transporting ammunition and materials which were used to subdue their people. Rather than carry guns and bullets to quell uprisings among their own people, 177 of the Indonesian seamen went on a strike. They were on strike in cities where housing facilities were critically scarce. In Harlem the Salvation Army Servicemen's club had 300-odd beds on three floors which could be utilized to house the Indonesians. Through a special arrangement with the National Maritime Union, the striking seamen were housed in dormitory space which the club makes available to servicemen of all races and creeds. Walter H. Roark, social worker and director of the center, initiated the move to house the Indonesians.

Activities of the Canteen are many and varied. Stars of stage, screen and radio donate their services freely for the entertainment of the hundreds of GI's who furlough and take shore leave at the center. All forms of recreational and spiritual outlets are also provided. Ruby Reid and A. Cooke, members of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority and Frances L. Chandler, student artist and Elton Fax, well-known Brooklyn illustrator are among the numerous artists who sketch and teach crafts to the men.

Indonesian seamen share the spotlight with civilians and pretty hostesses during a social evening at the Servicemen's club. The well-known actor, Leigh Whipper, is the civilian shown between the two hostesses at the extreme right.

Photos courtesy Servicemen's Club

East Indian music was provided by this group of Indonesians for a festive evening during which club personnel and guests honored the striking seamen and men of the United States Army and Navy. A number of talented youngsters added to the feature entertainment.

Another unique service of the center is its public relations division directed by Gladys P. Graham. The only department of its kind in any servicemen's club in the country, the Harlem club's public relations division makes contacts for servicemen to their friends, sends releases on activities and publishes a monthly house organ for the men, "Echoes." It also makes community contacts and channelizes program material to other areas of the club.

Interviews with some of the Indonesian seamen at the club, through their interpreter were arranged by the club's public relations division, thereby bringing the strikers into contact with some sympathizers and friends as well as a few of their former fellow-countrymen.

During the war, the Harlem center carried on 24 hours a day for "those who serve." During the reconversion it is continuing to give its service in the cause of freedom.

A few of the many services performed for men of the Army and Navy are pictured here. Top photo shows hostesses and servicemen decorating the club's spacious "Sky Room" for a gay Mexican fiesta. Bottom photos depict: left—servicemen and civilians at a Sunday morning "Celebrity Breakfast;" center—a soldier and a sailor writing those important letters home; and right—a Negro sailor and white GI sitting in on a gabfest with Father of the Blues W. C. Handy and Club Director Walter H. Roark.

TRIAD

Osage Oil

The bus stopped
at the entrance to the Osage reservation
("All Osages, you know, are oil-millionaires").
An old Indian
in sweaty felt hat
hair in thin frowsy braids
profile borrowed from an antique bronze coin
glared from the window
at a girl gorgeous and glittering
as the Superspecial Something
he had ordered filled with gasoline—
distilled, no doubt, from Osage oil.
And as she waited
she stretched her red lips
showed her white teeth
in a healthy happy yawn
as if she could
cheerfully unthinkingly effortlessly
swallow the old Osage
and his tribe
and their land
without chewing or gulping. . . .
Had I not already been informed
I might have mistaken
which was the millionaire.

Equality

Maybe we haven't always treated the Indian fairly
but there's one place he gets more than an even break:
Today I saw an Indian
complexion of a smoky copper kettle
pass COLORED without a glance
unhesitatingly enter WHITE MEN
and stand shoulder to shoulder
on terms of perfect equality.

Something Has Been Added

"Oklahoma," said the historian,
"is the only state in the Union
in which families known to be of Negro blood
are accepted in the Best Society.
But . . . the Negro blood must be mixed—
with Indian, to explain their complexion to outsiders;
and, of course, with petroleum."

KENNETH PORTER

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Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, BRANCH PANCAS, 1945—*Largest single producer was Rita Watkins, seated seventh from the left in the first row, who brought in 321 members and $505.50. Campaign chairman for the 1945 drive was George B. Nesbitt, number one on the left in the third row.*

ANNUAL MEETING

REPORT OF SECRETARY: Colored peoples throughout the world, who constitute two-thirds of the earth's population, "are determined once and for all time to end white exploitation and imperialism," declared Walter White in his report January 7 to the annual meeting of the NAACP.

This attitude is "particularly true" among American Negroes, the NAACP secretary asserted.

"The NAACP faces 1946," he said, "aware of the tremendous problems it faces in the fight for jobs, the ballot, housing, equal education and physical security from mobs.

"But it faces the new year with undimmed determination. Its membership has reached an all-time high of both Negro and white members totalling 520,000. Its branches, youth councils and college chapters now total 1129—more than twice the number in 1943. Significant victories were won in 1945 against housing segregation, trade union discrimination and legal injustices. In 1946 the work of the NAACP Veterans' Bureau, established on January 1, 1945, will be greatly expanded to meet the needs of veterans, particularly Negro veterans, who are facing in many instances unbelievable discrimination in finding jobs and places to live.

"We shall continue a vigorous legislative campaign both in the national Congress and state legislatures for needed legislation dealing with employment, voting, racial discrimination, segregation in the armed services, the poll tax, lynching, housing and fair employment practice. An expanded and more specific program of activity against misrepresentation of the Negro in moving pictures, radio, newsreels, stage, fiction and newspapers will be put into effect."

The NAACP, Mr. White said, will work also on international phases of the race question because the American situation "is part and parcel of the problems of other colored peoples in the West Indies, South America, Africa, the Pacific and Asia."

Mr. White also touched upon his trip to the Pacific war theatres last winter, and upon NAACP work on national legislation, particularly that affecting employment and social security.

WASHINGTON BUREAU: In his report on the Washington bureau, Leslie Perry stressed that NAACP representatives had appeared and testified before congressional committees on more important bills than in any other year since the association was organized. Six staff members testified on the following bills: full employment, permanent FEPC, United Nations charter, hospital survey and construction, peacetime conscription, general housing, federal aid to education, FEPC appropriation, minimum wage, extension of price control.

VETERANS: More than 150 branches have set up local committees to work with veterans, it was reported by Jesse O. Dedmon, secretary for veterans' affairs, who began his work last January. In the first year the office has handled hundreds of large and small problems of veterans, has investigated fifteen army camps, and appeared before review boards in behalf of veterans.

PACIFIC COAST: From the regional office in San Francisco, Calif., N. W. Griffin reported a full year of activity on housing, education and employment, in addition to organizing work among the branches of the NAACP from Seattle to San Diego. In Vallejo, Calif., a suit is being filed to compel admission of Negroes to the only permanent housing project left in that small city. Negroes were admitted to the temporary housing projects built to care for shipyard workers. Efforts of new white migrants from the southern states to set up segregated schools in a number of localities have been blocked, Griffin reported.

NEW BRANCHES: Charters were granted during the past year to 170 new branches of the association, located in 31 states and the Territory of Hawaii. The greatest expansion was in Texas, where 42 new chapters were chartered, according to the report of Ella J. Baker, director of branches. The NAACP has a total of 1,129 adult branches, youth councils and college chapters in all states except Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, North Dakota, and Montana, she said.

MEMBERSHIP: Incomplete tabulations place the total membership for 1945 near the 500,000 mark, with many final reports from many areas not yet received. The largest local unit is in Detroit, Michigan, with 21,000 members.

INCOME: Gross income for the year was $401,978, of which approximately $379,210 came in one form or another from the rank and file membership. This total includes $65,000 sent in by men and women, white and colored, in the armed services.

LEGAL DEPARTMENT: A fight during 1946 for absolute equality of educational facilities and expenditures between Negro and white students in southern states, where segregation is required by law, was pledged by Thurgood Marshall, special counsel, reporting for the Legal department. The report forecast that the coming year will see a large number of cases filed in states below the Mason-Dixon line to compel equality in local school systems.

The report named the major issues of Negro rights fought by the legal arm of the NAACP during the past year and outlined an energetic court campaign during 1946 on issues affecting Negroes: the right to vote,

segregation in housing, segregation in public education, and discrimination in employment. In addition, the NAACP has handled and will continue to handle the leal aspects of a number of cases involving Negroes in the armed forces of the United States.

The report pledged continued vigilance against efforts of election officials in the southern states to enforce the "white primary," outlawed in the famous 1944 "Texas White Primary" case decision, brought to the U. S. Supreme Court by the NAACP.

OFFICIAL ORGAN: *The Crisis* magazine, official monthly of the NAACP, reports an average circulation during 1945 of 59,000 copies monthly. Its gross income was $79,992, according to Roy Wilkins, editor.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Sixteen persons were elected to the Board of Directors for three-year terms: Dr. Buell Gallagher, Berkeley, Calif.; S. Ralph Harlow, Northampton, Mass.; Mrs. Grace B. Fenderson, Newark, N. J.; Carl Murphy, Baltimore, Md.; Judge William H. Hastie, Washington, D. C.; Dr. William Allan Neilson, Falls Village, Conn.; and Miss Marion Cuthbert, Judge Hubert T. Delany, Lewis S. Gannett, John Hammond, Rev. James H. Robinson, Arthur B. Spingarn, and Dr. Channing H. Tobias, all of New York.

New members chosen were Norman O. Houston, president of the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company, Los Angeles, Calif.; Ike Smalls, Des Moines, Ia., business man and president of the Iowa State conference of NAACP branches; and F. H. LaGuardia, former mayor of New York.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

BRETTON WOODS JIM-CROW: A report that Liberian and other dark-skinned delegates to the Bretton Woods monetary conference to be held near Savannah, Georgia, will be refused accommodations at the General Oglethorpe Hotel has caused the NAACP to inquire of both the State and Treasury Departments whether this arrangement has been sanctioned by the United States.

In identical letters to Secretary of the Treasury Fred M. Vinson and Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson, the NAACP declares that the hotel management has been quietly seeking to arrange to house colored delegates in private Negro homes in Savannah, nine miles from Wilmington Island, where the conference will be held. A beach club will also be used to house delegates, according to a Washington announcement, January 14, and the NAACP stated that its Georgia organization had informed it that Negroes were not permitted in either of the establishments except as servants.

The Washington announcement stated that a small committee of State and Treasury Department representatives recently inspected the Wilmington Island site and designated the General Oglethorpe Hotel and the nearby beach club as headquarters for the delegates from all over the world.

ARMY AND NAVY

CLEMENCY SOUGHT IN RAPE CASE: A petition for clemency in behalf of Edward Powell, now serving a life sentence at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, after conviction of the crime of rape upon a French woman last September, has been filed by the legal staff.

Franklin H. Williams, assistant special counsel of the Association, said that the petition pointed out that in spite of the fact that seven or eight servicemen allegedly attacked the woman, Powell and three others were the only ones brought to trial. It was further pointed out that the counsel appointed by the court to defend Powell apparently made little effort to introduce into evidence the defendant's contentions as to the events taking place on the night of the alleged rape.

The prosecutrix, it was emphasized, was an infamous prostitute who was allowed to ply her trade, unhampered by army authorities, within a few yards of the barracks of hundreds of Negro soldiers. The responsibility therefore, for such occurrences, even if true, should rest upon army authorities as well as upon the soldiers themselves.

It was asserted that the prosecution did not sustain their burden of proving Powell's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, and it was requested that his conviction be reversed with a view toward allowing him to re-enlist in the armed forces and honorably terminate his services to his country.

NAVY POLICY ON MARRIAGES: In answer to an inquiry by the NAACP, the Navy department, through H. Struve Hensel, acting secretary of the Navy, states that it has no policy on interracial marriages. The NAACP had relayed to the War and Navy departments complaints from Negro fighting men overseas that marriages were being forbidden by the two departments. Mr. Hansel's letter to Walter White said: "The following factors govern the marriages of all Naval personnel in such circumstances: 1. The laws of the country in which the marriage is to take place. 2. Certain qualifying restrictions, such as waiting periods, established by the various area commanders for the protection of United States military personnel themselves. Other than the above, the Navy does not concern itself with the question of eligibility of Naval personnel for marriage with persons of foreign citizenship in foreign countries."

SCHOOLS

WAR ON SCHOOL JIM CROW: A state-wide legal battle to halt the spread of jim-crow schools in Ohio and abolish those already in existence was drawn up in Columbus January 11-12 by delegates from most of the thirty-one branches in the state.

State president Maynard Dickerson of Youngstown presided over the meeting in the Spring Street YMCA in Columbus and conferences were held by Thurgood Marshall with lawyers and laymen on the situation in their communities.

It was reported that segregated schools are in existence in Dayton, Xenia, Hamilton, Oxford, and Chagrin Falls. The legal committee of the state conference of branches will investigate all cases and was given the power to institute suit in cases it deemed to be important. Indications are that suits will be filed in Chagrin Falls, Xenia, and Hamilton.

Plans for raising a fund of $10,000 to finance the cases will be drawn by the state executive committee at a meeting in the near future. The committee will also employ a full time executive to coordinate education,

Scurlock

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—*Pictured here are eleven of the nineteen members of the executive committee of the Washington, D. C. branch.*

publicity and fund-raising, and appoint active and enlarged education and publicity committees.

MISCELLANEOUS

SENTENCE REMITTED: The sentence of twenty-five years at hard labor meted out to Noel W. Greenidge, former first lieutenant in the 92nd Infantry, has been completely remitted and Greenidge has reenlisted and will be eligible for an honorable discharge. Thurgood Marshall and Franklin H. Williams filed the petition for clemency on behalf of Greenidge with the Secretary of War. The lawyers also filed a similar petition on behalf of John Arnold, formerly a private, who was convicted on a charge of rape.

VFW UNIT SENDS $444: The Paul Robeson Veterans of Foreign Wars, Field Unit No. 122, composed of members of the 1519th Engineer Water Supply company, has sent $444, representing memberships and contributions to the NAACP.

SEND $824: Six hundred officers and men of the 1324th Engineer General Service Regiment, and the 2917th Engineer Dump Truck company, joined the NAACP in a recent drive conducted under the leadship of Chaplain George E. Allen of Philadelphia Pa. They sent $824.34 to cover memberships and contributions.

PROTEST DISCHARGE: Negro officers of field grade who have expressed a desire to remain in the army are being summarily dismissed at Fort McClellan, Ala., the NAACP has charged in a wire to the Secretary of War. The NAACP protest said that subordinate commanders were being discriminatory in disregarding the requests of the men, made under appropriate War Department regulations.

COMPILING RECORD OF SOLDIERS: The NAACP is now in the process of compiling material from documents and authentic sources concerning the conduct and record of Negro troops in World War II. . The Association is anxious to make this collection as complete and informative as possible and invites persons who may have source material to send it to the national office, 20 West 40th Street, New York 18, N. Y.

MR. WHITE ON COAST: Walter White, executive secretary, is on the Pacific coast for conferences and speaking engagements that will keep him out of New York City for six weeks. Mr. White will speak in Los Angeles, San Francisco and other Pacific coast points before returning to the Middle West and the East.

What the Branches Are Doing

CONNECTICUT: In Bridgeport the Messiah Baptist church was host to the annual meeting and election of officers of the Bridgeport-Stratford branch.

At a recent meeting of the New Britain branch, the members listened to reports on the fourth quarterly meeting of the board of directors of the New England regional conference. There were representations from branches in Ansonia, Boston, Bridgeport, New Bedford, Pittsfield, Providence, Springfield, Waterbury, and Worcester.

Monroe Harris

NAACP OFFICIALS *at interracial breakfast given during the recent Ohio State conference of branches. Shown from left to right are Atty. J. Maynard Dickerson, Youngstown, re-elected state president; Mrs. Marion Smith Williams, member of state board of directors; Walter White, executive secretary NAACP; Mrs. Miley Overby Williamson, secretary state convention and executive secretary Dayton branch; Dr. M. R. Clarke, member executive board, Dayton; and Atty. Theodore Berry of Cincinnati, member state board and president of Cincinnati branch.*

FLORIDA: The following persons were leaders of the membership and fund-raising campaign recently conducted by the Bay county branch of Panama City, Fla.: Thomas J. Jones, Mrs. Agnes Watkins Stanton, Mrs. Mary E. Pearson, A. L. Reynolds, and the Rev. P. L. Glover. Winners of the baby contest, held in connection with the campaign, were the little Misses Lucie May Curry, first prize, Mary Nell Williams, second prize, and Bobbie Ann Grider, third.

IOWA: The Des Moines branch held its annual report meeting and election December 6. The officers elected for the year 1946 are A. P. Trotter, president; Rev. W. H. Wheeler, first vice-president, F. O. Morrow, second vice-president; Mrs. William Neal, secretary; Lucy Davis, assistant secretary; and Sarah E. Jett, treasurer.

The board of directors consists of Attorney S. Joe Brown, Mrs. Georgine C. Morris, Ike Smalls, Mrs. Cecil Lewis, Judge T. J. Guthrie, Mrs. Golda T. Faut, Rev. H. R. M. Hardiman, Rev. J. J. Hawkins, and Cornell Housson.

At a special call meeting on January 8, A. P. Trotter, president, outlined some of the year's work and appointed the following chairmen for the various committees: Attorney S. Joe Brown, legal redress and legislative; Mrs. Alice McCraney, education-program and entertainment; Mrs. Guy E. Greene, press and publicity; Rev. J. J. Hawkins, membership; A. P. Trotter, finance; Ike Smalls, hospital; Mrs. Clara Bayles, youth council advisor; Mrs. Hattie Manuel, co-chairman.

Ike Smalls, past president of the branch, paid his life-time membership in November.

MARYLAND: Andy Kirk, popular band leader, took out a $500 life membership in the Baltimore branch. Officers of the branch active in signing up the band leader were Addison V. Pinkney, executive secretary; Mrs. Virginia J. Kiah, promotional secretary; and Mrs. Lillie M. Jackson, president.

MASSACHUSETTS: Dr. J. Tunstal Parham, president of the New Bedford branch, was upon his retirement as president presented a leather brief case at the last meeting.

Dr. Parham has served the branch as president for three years, and his leadership has been felt in the community. He is one of the city's leading dentists, a member of the USO advisory board, a member of the Colored Business and Professional Men's Club, and a trustee of the Union Baptist church. His wife, the late Ethel Hayes Parham, was a member of the New England regional conference of the NAACP.

C. Dudley Onley, who has served the branch since its institution in 1937, was retired and replaced by Mrs. Ruth Dade.

John S. Barrean, who succeeds Dr. Parham as president, is the grandson of the late Emmuel Sullivan, formerly one of the city's outstanding lawyers. New vice-president is Dr. Joseph W. Merchant (white), secretary of the Inter-Church Council of greater New Bedford, Mass.

NEW JERSEY: Dr. Everett B. Simmons was unanimously re-elected president of the branch of the Oranges at the regular monthly meeting of the branch in December. Other officers elected for the year 1946 are as follows: Heziah Hipkins, vice-president; David De Grafenreid, first vice-president; Samuel A. Williams, second vice-president; Mrs. Blondine Bruce, recording secretary; Mrs. Grace Gibson, financial secretary; Mrs. Gladys Bell, corresponding secretary; Miss Blanch Wilson, Miss Thelma Drew, Miss Betty Grayson, assistant corresponding secretaries; Mrs. Mary C. Woody, treasurer; and Joseph Mumford, sergeant-at-arms.

David De Grafenreid, chairman of the committee formed to protest against the proposed master plan of the Planning Board of East Orange, urged all members to give their whole-hearted support to this protest. Other speakers on the same subject were Joseph Grayson and E. T. Bowser.

William Purdy, E. T. Bowser, and Mrs. Grace Gibson were elected to represent the branch at the quarterly meeting of the New Jersey conference of branches held in Trenton, N. J., on January 5.

On December 10 Dr. Simmons and a large delegation of members attended the Council meeting at the East Orange City Hall and presented the following petition, with 2,300 signatures, to the Council:

Whereas: The planning Board of the City of East Orange proposes to submit to the East Orange City Council recommendations that certain neighborhoods and or districts are blight areas; i.e., Amherst, Halsted, So. Clinton, Cambridge, Princeton Streets, south of Central and No. Clifton Street and the Edgerton Terrace area north of Park Avenue, and that the properties in the said areas should be condemned to provide space for garden apartments which would not be available for occupancy by the greater percentage of the present residents of the said neighborhood and,

Whereas: The properties in the neighborhoods considered as Blight areas are in appearance, general up-keep and repair comparable with other properties, regardless of their location, in the city of East Orange, and,

Whereas: A large percentage of the residents of the said areas are home owners, retaining their property in a good state of up-keep; superior to the city wide up-keep, the latter being 75% absentee owned, and,

Whereas: An overwhelming majority of the residents of the said areas are Negro citizens, and the remaining minority are white working people of the lower income bracket, the plan emphatically indicates segregation because of color and income.

BE IT RESOLVED: That we the undersigned citizens of East Orange do herewith vigorously protest the present recommendations of the Harland Bartholomew and Associates, city planning engineers, and representations of the Planning Board of the City of East Orange, as set forth in a Town Hall meeting at East Orange High School on October 25, 1945,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this protest be sent to the Mayor and to each individual member of the City Council of the City of East Orange, and,

FURTHER: That the signed petition be presented to the City Council urging their prompt denunciation and disapproval of the plan as has been publicly set forth.

Topic for discussion at a recent meeting of the Atlantic City branch was "The Negro in the Period of Reconversion." Thurgood Marshall, special counsel of the NAACP, was the principal speaker.

NEW YORK: The quarterly conference of the New York State branches of the NAACP was held December 15-16 in Portchester, N. Y., with headquarters in the Carver Community Center. Delegates from all parts of the state were present and reported on branch activities. They also laid plans for the tenth anniversary of the conference to be held in New York City in May.

Highlighting the conference was the report of the state vice-president, Dr. Leon Scott of New Rochelle. Dr. Scott described the results obtained by the addition of Negro teachers to schools throughout the state. Harcourt A. Tynes, regional director of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, discussed some experiments in intercultural relations. At the Sunday public meeting the state president, James Egbert Allen, discussed restrictive covenants; and Dr. John Stanley Grauel, of the American Palestine Committee, the problems of minorities in a democracy.

OHIO: Thomas Berry, president of the Cincinnati branch, has announced that the 1946 annual conference of the branches and youth councils will be held in Cincinnati in June.

The largest crowd in the history of the Youngstown branch attended the annual election in the main auditorium of the West Federal street "Y" in December. Carl Howard presided and committee chairmen gave their reports. Mose Chambers, chairman of the membership committee, reported 1,294 members; Nathaniel Lee reported progress in the school plan; and H. L. Green, chairman of industry and labor, gave a report showing dissatisfaction with the legal redress committee in cases of alleged police brutality. The nominating committee consisted of Rev. S. S. Booker, Lee Heilman, and Mrs. Pauline Taylor. R. B. Harvey conducted the elections.

Press Association

ETHIOPIAN DELEGATES TO UNO CONFERENCE *are Aklilon Abtewold (left), leader of the delegation, and Imirou Zalaka (center), delegation secretary, being greeted by Blatta Ephen, Ethiopian minister in England, as they arrive at Victoria station in London, England.*

Officers elected were as follows: C. B. Howard, president; Nathaniel Lee, Mrs. Pauline Taylor, L. Wigfall, vice-presidents; W. H. Staton, W. L. Driskell, secretaries; Rev. S. S. Booker, treasurer; J. M. Dickerson, press; H. J. Fugett, legal redress; H. L. Green, labor and industry; N. Lee, education; Mrs. E. Dostal, youth council; E. McCreary, entertainments; and Mose Chambers, veterans.

Saturday and Sunday, January 12-13, representatives of Ohio's NAACP branches, attorneys, and representatives of other interested groups met at the Spring street YMCA in Columbus to confer with Thurgood Marshall, special counsel of the NAACP. The group mapped plans for a statewide attack on segregation in the public schools of the state as well as an attack upon restrictive covenants in real estate deals.

The two-day conference got under way Saturday at 10:00 A. M., with reports from branches in cities which are faced with segregation in public schools and restrictive covenants. At the afternoon meeting, legal aspects and techniques for follow-up work were considered. And at 6:00 P. M. there was a dinner discussion. The dinner discussion was followed by a clinic dealing with segregation in the public schools of the state. The meeting was presided over by Mrs. Marian Smith Williams, president of the Dayton branch and chairman of the education committee of the Ohio State Conference.

On Sunday morning there was a panel discussion of the responsibility of the Ohio branches in the elimination of segregation in the public schools. Among the participants were Dr. Lewis McMillan of Wilberforce, Dr. James Levy of Cleveland, and Attorney William Brooks of Columbus. There was also a roundtable discussion of restrictive covenants presided over by Attorney William Howard of Youngstown.

The local committee which arranged for the meeting consisted of Attorney Edward Cox, president of the Columbus branch; A. P. Bentley, treasurer of the Ohio conference; and Mrs. Doris Coles, member of the education committee.

PENNSYLVANIA: The newly elected officers of the Philadelphia branch were installed on January 8. Those inducted were Magistrate Joseph Rainey, president; Wm. C. Wingate, first vice-president; George B. Morris, second vice-president; Marion Scott, secretary; Joseph Faison, treasurer; board members: Rev. Thomas Logan, Mamie Brown, Harold L. Pilgrim, Goldie Watson, Rosa Pitts, Rev. William C. Harvey, Jr., Charles Mitchell, Maxwell Windham, Theodore Spaulding, Mamye Jones Jason, Catherine Papell, Helen Duckett, Edna W. Griffin, John Harris, Jr., Rev. P. E. Evans, Walter C. Beckett, Gretchen Jones, Wm. C. Jason, Jr., Ralph Jones, Alvin C. White, Rev. W. L. Johnson, G. James Fleming, Charles L. Hopkins, and Harry Hamilton.

Charles A. Shorter, executive secretary of the branch, in a letter to the editor of the

NEW BOARD MEMBER

Acme

F. H. LaGuardia, former mayor of New York City, is one of the three new members elected to the Board of Directors of the NAACP in January for the three-year term expiring December 31, 1948. LaGuardia is now a radio commentator and newspaper columnist.

NEW CIVILIAN AIDE

U.S. Army from Acme

Lt. Col. Marcus H. Ray, Chicago, Ill., formerly commanding officer of the 600th Artillery Battalion of the 92nd Infantry Division, was appointed civilian aide to the Secretary of War on January 2. Col. Ray is a graduate of the University of Illinois. He holds the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, and the Italian Honor, Cross of Merit of War.

NEW BOARD MEMBER

Norman O. Houston, president and comptroller of the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company of Los Angeles, Calif., was elected to the Board of Directors of the NAACP in January.

Evening Bulletin, protested against the use of "race labels" in crimes involving Negroes. What is worse, the letter pointed out, is the use of these labels in connection with crimes in which no Negroes are involved.

The *Evening Bulletin* in its story (December 12, 1945) of the knifing of fourteen-year-old Herbert Berkowitz of 801 South Fourth street claimed that Berkowitz told the police he had been accosted by two boys, one a Negro. An investigation by the branch revealed that no Negro had been involved in the Berkowitz fight.

"It is our belief," continues Mr. Shorter's letter, "that there is no other factor contributing more to the cause of racial tensions than the use of the word 'Negro' by the papers after the names of those persons who perpetrate crimes.

"It isn't that our organization wishes to conceal the identity of any criminal because he happens to be a colored person, but it is our firm belief that any institution or organization which has the future interest of his country at heart would desist from doing those things which foster the creation of tensions among racial groups."

In addressing 150 financial campaign workers of the branch, Magistrate Joseph Rainey, newly elected president of the branch, stated that our pressure organizations must never let up in their efforts to bring freedom on all fronts, even through the days of prosperity, and that no organization fought for the rights of our people on the battle fields as well as the home front to the extent of the NAACP.

Dr. DeHaven Hinkson, a former colonel in the U. S. Army, and Bishop David E. Sims have been elected chairman and vice-chairman respectively of the branch health committee. Purpose of this committee is to head a drive to eliminate discriminatory practices in tax-supported local hospitals and clinics as well as to direct attention to the need for the expansion of hospital facilities and medical care to all the citizentry.

TEXAS: First accomplishment of the recently organized Abilene branch was the securing of a lavatory for Negroes in the county court house. Fifty-year-old Abilene had never had a lavatory for its colored citizens in the court house, and when the request for one was made to the judge he granted it in a most friendly manner.

Maurice Strider

LEXINGTON, KY., YOUTH COUNCIL *group (recently organized) pictured here are, standing, from left to right, Pauline Higgins, Dorothy Carter, Rebecca Ross, Virginia McKinney, Bush Hunter, Jr., Barbara Bailey, Ruth Beatty, Lois Oldham, and Geraldine Higgins. Seated, left to right, are Jean Mills, Betye Thurman (president), Bill McKinney, Mary C. Coleman, Bernice Reed, and Juanita Harden.*

YOUTH COUNCIL GROUPS—*Top, delegates to the Seventh Annual Youth Conference held at Wilberforce University, Ohio, December 27-30, 1945. Middle, council representatives reporting to the conference on their yearly activities. Bottom, youth council members of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. At extreme left of picture are Mrs. Viola Gibson, senior adviser, and Rev. A. R. Parks, president of the Cedar Rapids branch. (Top and middle photo, Ed Taylor; bottom John L. Boldridge)*

Story of the Month

The Washington, D. C., branch chalked up a victory when the Washington *Post,* leading liberal newspaper of the capital, notified the Amateur Athletic Union that it would no longer sponsor jim-crow athletic contests.

For many years the *Post* has been the sponsor of the AAU boxing tournament. This, with the Golden Gloves competition sponsored by the *Times-Herald,* offered white amateur boxers in the District a direct entree to nationwide contests and fame. Negroes were barred from both of the local events by the registration committee of the District Amateur Athletic Union, which wrote on the back of sponsor's permits the words: "The Registration Committee of the District of Columbia Association of the Amateur Athletic Union does not sanction mixed racial competition or exhibitions in any sport under its jurisdiction."

Negro athletes, who must pay membership fees to the AAU, even to compete with colored teams, were thus denied opportunity to prove themselves worthy of competing in national events.

Last year the District branch brought legal action against the AAU, charging denial of constitutional rights on the ground that Negro athletes who met all qualifications were refused permission to participate in events open to other members of the AAU.

In December Dr. E. B. Henderson, chairman of the branch committee on recreation, wrote Eugene Meyer, editor-owner of the Washington *Post,* stating that sponsorship of jim-crow sporting events was inconsistent with the progressive viewpoint maintained by that paper.

Dr. Henderson also wrote to Mrs. Eleanor Patterson, publisher of the Washington *Times-Herald,* with regard to the Golden Gloves competition, suggesting that so powerful an institution as that newspaper could "resist the imposition of this restriction upon its sponsorship."

Mrs. Patterson replied: "At the present time we cannot oppose the laws of the District of Columbia. However, I have referred the whole matter to our legal adviser."

Mrs. Patterson's letter elicited from Dr. Henderson the statement: ". . . It is appalling that any person controlling an influential organ of public information should display such ignorance as to assume that the laws of the District require racial segregation anywhere except in the public schools."

'On the Beam' With Youth Councils

A Banner Year, 1945: Charters were granted to 88 new units of the youth department, bringing the total number of youth councils to 237, with 40 college chapters. Knoxville, Tennessee, maintained first place as the largest youth council in the country with 1703 members. Chattanooga is second with 1450 members. The college chapter at the University of Indiana, which was organized in February of '45, secured the largest membership among the campus groups with 555 members. Southern University, Louisiana, followed with 469 members.

Reports from the various youth groups showed activities along all of the lines set forth by their parent bodies. Prime interest was in working for the passage of legislation for the establishment of a federal fair employment practice committee and the extension of voting privileges to Negroes in the South. Additional emphasis was placed upon the introduction of intercultural education in schools and communities in order to aid in the improvement of interracial relations. Discrimination in the use of public recreational facilities was attacked in many communities by both the youth councils and college chapters.

Fisk University: The college chapter tripled its membership over that of 1945 when it secured 172 new members in its recent campaign. Continuing projects of the chapter include letter-writing to state legislators and congressmen advocating anti-poll tax and permanent FEPC bills. An outstanding campus event was the presentation of the one-act play *Skin Deep,* written by Charles Polecheck. The play was presented with a mixed cast of students from Scarrett College for Religious Workers and Fisk. Purpose of the play was to create a more practical relationship among the various colleges of Nashville.

Baltimore, Md.: A holiday party for the youth council was held at the Sharp Street Community House in January.

Philadelphia, Pa.: The West Philadelphia youth council sent Stephen Edley as its delegate to the seventh annual youth conference at Wilberforce, Ohio.

Countee Cullen Dead

Countee Cullen, famous Negro poet, died in Sydenham Hospital on January 9. His age was 42.

He first achieved fame as a poet while a student at the De Witt Clinton high school when he won a poetry contest sponsored by the Federation of Women's Clubs. He was born in New York City, a son of the Rev. Frederick A. Cullen, founder of the Salem Methodist Episcopal Church. For the past eleven years he had been a teacher of French at the Frederick Douglass junior high school in New York City.

LEGAL DIRECTORY

The following directory of some of the many colored lawyers in this country is carried in response to numerous inquiries from readers desiring to contact attorneys outside their home towns. The Crisis maintains no legal bureau, and the N.A.A.C.P. handles only cases involving color discrimination, segregation or denial of citizenship rights.

CALIFORNIA

Clarence A. Jones
129 W. 3rd St., Los Angeles 13
Telephone: VAndyne 1764

Marshall Denton, Jr.
3429 S. Central Ave.
Los Angeles 11
Telephone: ADams 5544

H. Leonard Richardson
4066 South Central Ave., Los Angeles 11
Telephone: ADams 7774

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Isaiah Lisemby
1609 First St., N. W., Washington 1, D. C.
Telephone: North 7343

James T. Wright
3220 Sherman Ave., N. W., Washington 10, D. C.
3000 S. State St., Chicago, Ill.

ILLINOIS

William Henry Huff
520 East 35th St., Chicago 16, Ill.
Telephone: OAkland 6749

MICHIGAN

Floyd H. Skinner
Michigan at Monroe Avenue, Grand Rapids
Telephone: 8-9042

NEW JERSEY

Logan W. McWilson
128 Market St., Newark 2
Telephone: MA 3-1779

NEW YORK

William T. Andrews
1 West 125th St., New York, N. Y.
Telephone: LEhigh 4-0989

William T. Garvin
217 W. 125th st., New York 27, N. Y.
Telephone: ACademy 2-9260

OHIO

Harry E. Davis
202-6 Engineers Bldg., Cleveland
Telephone: MAin 1320

PENNSYLVANIA

Theodore Spaulding
425 South Broad St., Philadelphia
Telephone: Pennypacker 4834

VIRGINIA

Timothy W. Fisher
548 Twenty-fifth Street, Newport News
Suite 201-2-3. Telephone: 2-1391

Book Review

ESSAYS IN LIBERALISM

Race and Democratic Society. **By Franz Boas. New York: J. J. Augustin, 1945. 219 pp. $2.50.**

Race and Democratic Society is a posthumous volume of brief papers and addresses directed to lay audiences by the famous anthropologist Franz Boas, and edited by his son Dr. Ernst P. Boas. Franz Boas believed strongly that the results of science should be shared with larger and larger masses of people and in the later years of his life he spoke many times on significant social problems.

The papers are classified under the headings of "Race," Units of Man," and "Democratic Society." While each group stresses a particular point of view according to the subject matter, underlying all of them is a passionate emphasis on the interests of mankind as opposed to any class, race, or nation. On the subject of race he makes over and over again the familiar anthropological points that race does not determine mentality or behavior, that there is no pure race, that there is no proof for a biologically determined superiority of one race over another, that neither Jews nor "Aryans" are a race, that the African Negroes had major achievements to their credit, and that the number of full blooded Negroes in the U. S. is decreasing. In talking of mixtures between Negroes of varying complexions, it seems to the reviewer that Professor Boas erred when he said, that "The male (mulatto) will marry a mulatto or a full-blood Negro, while the female will frequently marry a white man or a person of lighter color than herself." The data seem to indicate that the opposite is true.

We regard the second and third sections dealing with "Units of Man" and "Democratic Society" as perhaps the most significant for this new Atomic Age, although they were written before the atomic bomb dramatically announced the ending of the past era. In these sections Professor Boas shows the similarity between the feeling of nationality and the solidarity of the primitive horde, in which any stranger is an enemy. The author traces the enlargement of political units in primitive tribes such as the Zulus and Iroquois, and in ancient societies such as the urban states of Greece and Italy, and the disappearance of the small feudal states, until the modern nation emerges. He thinks that the tendencies which have conditioned this ever increasing size of the groups of men who live in peace, will govern future history, and that "the federation of nations is the next necessary step in the evolution of mankind." Even without the atomic bomb, Boas saw such a federation as the only method of abolishing warfare. He shows how nationalism is now taught to the youth, perpetuating feelings of rivalry and hostility to other nations, but that art, science, labor, and commerce form ties that bind men together regardless of their nationality. We would question however his idea that nationalism flourishes more among the educated classes, and that the masses merely follow the impetus that is given them. In another paper on "Mental Attitude of the Educated Classes," he regards the judgment of the masses as superior to that of the intellectuals which, he says is more apt to be shaped by traditional ideas. He thinks that the masses respond more quickly to the urgent demands of the hour because their attachment to the past is relatively slight. It seems to us rather difficult to generalize on this point, as the masses have been known to be reactionary as well as revolutionary, and in the latter case the motivation is probably the urgency of their needs rather than their lack of attachment to history. However, these are small points besides the major one, that nations should subordinate their own needs to the general human ineresrts. He emphasizes that an international organization which is to survive must do justice to the *changing* demands of the time.

The book is a personal testament of a great scientist and a clear statement of his opinions based on years of research on many problems which represent crises in contemporary life. We are indebted to Dr. Ernst Boas for seeing that these papers were published.

HORTENSE POWDERMAKER

Books By Negro Authors

(*Continued from page 47*)

PRIMER FOR WHITE FOLKS. Edited by Bucklin Moon. New York, Doubleday, Doran Company. 491 pp. $3.50.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for December, 1945, at page 362.

RICHARDSON, BEN. Great American Negroes. New York, Thomas Y. Crowell Company. 223 pp. $2.50.

Success stories of twenty-one Negroes (all living except G. W. Carver, "Fats" Waller and Crispus Attucks) entertainingly told and suitable to children of high school age. The selection is capricious, but this would not be important were it not for the misleading title. To label some of the minor figures included as "great" is a disservice to the Race.

ROBESON, ESLANDA GOODE. African Journey. New York. The John Day Company. 154 pp. $3.50.

A well written travelogue by Mrs. Paul Robeson, herself a trained scientist, giving her experiences and impressions of parts of Africa, where she spent a few months in 1936 with her young son; an attractive book with numerous excellent illustrations.

SHOKUNBI, MAE GLEATON. Songs of the Soul. Philadelphia, Dorrance & Company. 76 pp. $1.50.

Short inspirational prose essays on many subjects.

STEWART, OLLIE and others. This is Our War. Baltimore. 216 pp. $1.00.

Selected stories, edited by Carl Murphy, of the War correspondents sent overseas by the Afro-American Newspapers, Ollie Stewart, Max Johnson, Vincent Tubbs, Art Carter, Herbert M. Frisbey and Elizabeth M. Phillips. Taken together they give a colorful picture of the day to day life of Negro troops in Europe, North Africa, Alaska and the Southwest Pacific.

TURNER, ALFRED. From a Plow to a Doctorate—So What? Hampton Institute, The Author. 89 pp. $.75.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for June, 1945, at page 179.

WHITE, WALTER. A Rising Wind. New York, Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc. 155 pp. $2.00.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for March, 1945, at page 83.

WRIGHT, BRUCE McMARION. The shaken tower. Cardiff, Wales, William Lewis, Ltd. 38 pp.

A volume of verse which the compiler was unable to procure as it was already out of print.

WRIGHT, RICHARD. Black Boy. New York, Harper & Brothers. 228 pp. $2.50.

Reviewed in *The Crisis* for April, 1945, at page 117.

II. PAMPHLETS

Among the pamphlets published in 1945 the following may be noted:

BROWN, AARON. The Negro in Albany. Albany, Georgia.

CALIVER, AMBROSE. Education of Teachers for Improving Majority-Minority Relations. Washington, D. C.

COBB, W. MONTAGUE. Medico-Chi: Whence and Whither. Washington, D. C.

COUNCIL ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS. The San Francisco Conference and the Colonial issue. New York.

DEAN, ELMER WENDELL. An Elephant Lives in Harlem. New York.

DELANO, ISAAC O. One Church for Nigeria. London.

FORD, JAMES DAVIS, BENJAMIN Jr. and PATTERSON, WILLIAM L. Communists in the Struggle for Negro Rights. New York.

GARVEY, A. JACQUES. Memorandum Correlative of Africa, West Indies and the Americas sent to Representatives of the United Nations. Jamaica, B. W. I.

GORDON, EUGENE and Earl Conrad. Equal Justice Under the Law. New York.

GORVIE, MAX. Old and New in Sierra Leone. London.

GORVIE, MAX. Our People in the Sierra Leone Protectorate. London.

HODGES, GEORGE W. Early Negro Church Life in New York. New York.

HUDICOURT, MAX D. Haiti Faces Tomorrow's Peace. New York.

HUDICOURT, MAX D. The Triumph of Fascism or the Haitian-American Responsibility. Brooklyn, New York.

KENYATTA. Kenya, the Land of Conflict. London.

LYELLS, RUBY E. S. College Spirit. Alcorn, Miss.

MUSSON, M. Aggrey of Achimota. London.

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS. The Negro Worker After the War. New York.

OJIKE, MBONO. Portrait of a boy in Africa. New York.

PADMORE, GEORGE and Nancy Cunard. The White Man's Duty. Manchester, England.

ROBESON, MRS. PAUL. What Do the People of Africa Want? New York.

SEYMOUR, ALEXANDER. Love Lights. Love Poems. New York.

SEYMOUR, ALEXANDER. Brighter Christmas. Christmas Poems. New York.

SWEETWINE, CHARLES. The Earth Shall Conquer You. An epic poem. New York.

TURNER, LORENZO D. Notes on the sounds and vocabulary of Gullah. Baltimore.

YERGAN, MAX and others. For a New Africa. New York.

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Youth Meets

(*Continued from page* 43)

Kitti Boomla, India; Manuel Popoca, Mexico.

The World Federation of Democratic Youth stated its aims in the form of a program, whose aims are:

> . . . close international understanding and cooperation amongst the youth in the fields of economic, political, educational, cultural, and social activity, with respect for diversity of ideas and national conditions, to make the maximum contribution to the elimination of Fascism in all its forms; to render active assistance to the governments in ensuring peace and security, in bringing up the rising generation in the spirit of democracy, and in raising the standard of life of the young generation.
>
> To work for the active participation of youth in economic, political, social, and cultural life, for the removal of all restrictions and qualifications connected with sex, method of education, domicile, property, of social status, religion, political belief, color, or race; to ensure for the democratic youth, freedom of speech, press, religious belief, assembly and demonstration, and to assist the foundation of democratic youth organizations where these do not exist.

The World Youth Conference ended after fourteen days of deliberations. It heard hundreds of speakers in plenary sessions and discussion groups. It framed several sets of resolutions. It wrote a constitution for the World Federation of Democratic Youth which will begin to function in each country through a national co-ordinating committee of representative organizations.

The question asked at the conference and asked many times since is "What are the politics of the WFDY?"

During the Conference disgruntled elements in Britain who did not participate, labeled the conference "communistic," a familiar tactic used to discredit. While the Boy Scouts, YMCA, Girl's Friendly and similar movements in Britain did not participate, from many of the other countries these organizations or their counterpart were represented on national delegations.

The American delegation was probably as broadly representative as could be considering the circumstances of selection and the reluctance of many national organizations to trust youth representatives to meet in an international conference where they would come in contact with young people from different political backgrounds and beliefs. To label the conference as did the London *Sunday Dispatch*:

> It would seem from some of the reported speeches that one qualification for the distinction of being a delegate is the possession of political views of an extremely Left type. . . .

is not doing absolute justice to more than 600 delegates who argued and discussed varying points of views for fourteen days trying to arrive at a basis for world organization. Nor can one say that the conference was ultra-conservative. Certainly the "communistic" element was there and as usual, well represented. Unfortunately, the more conservative groups were not present in the proportion they bear to the world's population.

Unity vs. Unanimity

There was a tendency on the part of left wing elements at the conference to oversimplify world problems into either "Fascist" or "anti-Fascist." It is easily understandable how youth from the countries so recently under Nazi domination could hate everything Fascist. To them the term "Fascist" had definite meanings connoted with oppression, murder and everything evil that was connected with German domination. To apply the term promiscuously without adequate definition tended to create division at the conference. Why? Because it became easy to label as Fascist those who did not agree with majority sentiment of the conference. The minority, while agreeing with the overall objectives of the conference, desired that the conference be more specific in spelling out what it meant by "anti-Fascism," and "Unanimity."

Perhaps this is best stated by Penry Jones, representative of the Student Christian Movement of Great Britain. Before accepting confirmation by the conference as one of the four vice-presidents, Jones made the following statement:

> I am deeply conscious of the privilege and honour bestowed upon me by the British Delegation, but since the conference is to ratify the choice it is only fair to state my position before it is ratified.
>
> I have the feeling that it has been too easily assumed that this Congress is unanimous. I believe that this is fundamentally a false view of the situation. It is unlikely that diverse elements should have the same, the identical views of life. If we were cabbages without brains or ideas or if we all belonged to one set or part of society we might be unanimous quite easily. We may deceive ourselves but we shall not deceive the watching world.
>
> I believe we have not unanimity but unity of aims. We all sincerely desire a representative Youth Federation to express our views and wills. I am a representative of Christian Youth and these are some principles and convictions. I refuse to surrender in the name of unanimity. One of these convictions is that Anti-Fascism is not the whole basis for a World Federation of Youth, but that a more positive value based on the noblest and highest of dignity and worth of mankind must be found. After all there is no reason for bettering conditions or helping fellowmen; there is no need for justice or truth unless we place value upon all men.
>
> If this Conference is willing for me to hold these views—is ready to hear them expressed unequivocally and uncompromisingly and to recognize the difference in convictions and belief, I shall accept ratification.
>
> If we are unanimous we do not represent World Youth. I believe we all desire peace, order and a world of justice and truth. I am convinced of our joint will and unity of aim to construct a World Federation—but not based on unanimity.

Penry Jones was confirmed without a dissenting vote and his statement became part of the permanent record of the conference.

Shall We Cooperate?

The aims of the World Federation of Democratic Youth are laudable and are the aims of all of us. Our cooperation with it must be through a national co-ordinating body which is broadly representative of the majority of national organizations plus regional and such local groups as will complete an organization truly representative of youth in the United States. If such a broad national body is created we should be a working part. Our youth must learn to work with various groupings without necessarily being naively "taken over." This I think is possible. Through cooperation and mutual understanding, our common aims for world peace can be achieved.

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Only Make Believe

(*Continued from page* 45)

much better chance, during times of depression, of a long run than it would have in first-run houses. When his pay check is reduced, instead of taking the little lady downtown to a show at 80¢ apiece, a fellow will duck around the corner where both can get in for the price of one first-rate admission. This brings up another point. When the current war-induced boom has spent itself, the motion picture industry will be dependent on the little fellow with his thirty or forty cents to spend for a ticket. And that is where you will find most of the nation's 13,000,000 Negroes.

Before Negroes can hope to gain greater participation in the motion picture industry, they must have an understanding of the four revolutionizing factors now at work in Hollywood.

Understanding Hollywood

These are the employee strike of the Conference of Studio Unions which, though listed as a jurisdictional dispute between them and another AFL union, the International Alliance of Stage and Theatrical Employees, is actually a pitched battle between the left and the right for control of strategic jobs in the industry; the Government's anti-trust suit now being aired in the federal courts, charging that the producer-distributor combinations of five of the major film companies are monopolistic in nature and in restraint of trade; the removal of Will Hays from his position as president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors Association and the appointment of Eric Johnston; and the appointment of Donald Nelson as head of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers.

It is the writer's opinion that the most significant of these is the Government's anti-trust suit. This is the action brought originally by the Department of Justice in 1939, when the then attorney general, Francis Biddle, claimed, after having been prodded by independent theatre owners, that certain practices of the Big Five—RKO, Loews (MGM), Paramount, Warner Brothers, and 20th Century-Fox—were in violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust law.

One of these practices was *block booking*, or the policy of forcing independent exhibitors to buy pictures in lots. Rather than go into court on the merits of the case, the Big Five, acting in concert, asked for and obtained a consent decree, which was an out-of-court agreement to modify the practices complained of. With the elevation of Tom Clark to the attorney generalship, there was belief in Hollywood that he would be lenient and agree to another consent decree. But since he had done most of the preparation of the Government's case under Biddle, he ignored the industry's pleas and took the case into court.

What does this mean to the Negro? *Plenty.* Despite the fact that they are being defended by some of their highest-paid attorneys, even the Hollywood producers consider divorcement of the producer-distributor combinations inevitable. The great bulk of Negroes patronize theatres in which the producers have little interest except to collect a flat and often small rental fee for pictures shown. In the South where over half the Negro population lives, all the jim-crow movie houses they attend book their pictures on a flat rental basis. Even in the North the bulk of Negro film patronage is enjoyed by third- and fourth-run houses where films are booked in this manner.

The federal suit may also lead to a ruling that the motion picture industry is a quasi-public utility, as it most certainly is. With such a ruling it is almost a foregone conclusion that the industry will be in for some form of official watching. One of Eric Johnston's jobs is to prevent this as well as to get State Department aid in opening up many of the now closed doors in foreign countries. If the industry accepts the aid it will have to take the supervision. This means, of course, that although Hollywood may close its ears to the requests of Negroes, it cannot ignore the demands of vote-conscious politicians. And Negroes can reach the latter.

The significance of Donald Nelson's entry into the film industry as president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture producers is that the independent producers are out to get a larger share of the motion picture business. Every progressive in Hollywood welcomes this because the independent producer is generally unhampered by outmoded studio practices and policies. He has to keep his ear close to the ground and he is therefore in a better position to know what people will pay to see on the screen.

Plans for Action

Taking a panoramic view of the film situation, the job ahead for Negroes seems to fall into the following outline:

1. What Negro spokesmen tell Hollywood must be removed from the moral realm of right and wrong and couched in the realistic terms of the boxoffice. The figures are there. All they need is dramatic interpretation.
2. Negroes should give more of their patronage to second run houses where audience reaction is of vital importance to the producers.
3. More Negro capital must be invested in theatre ownership and management, a most lucrative business.
4. Independent producers like David O. Selznick and Sam Goldwyn should be persuaded to show their films "day-and-date" in large Negro communities with downtown showings.
5. Careful watching of all Government moves toward regulation of the film industry. This is Hollywood's Achilles' heel.
6. Greater concern with entry of the budding 16 millimeter film into the commercial field. Requiring less money to produce, and the fact that they can be exhibited in places other than the regular commercial theatre, these films will create a new concept of values in their production. Since the major producers are worried about the 16mm films, Negroes might as well try to get in on the ground floor.
7. And finally, the Negro press should assign competent and uncorrupted writers to film criticism.

Remember, the Hollywood film industry is undergoing a philosophical change as drastic as that which wiped out the silent films and gave us the talkie.

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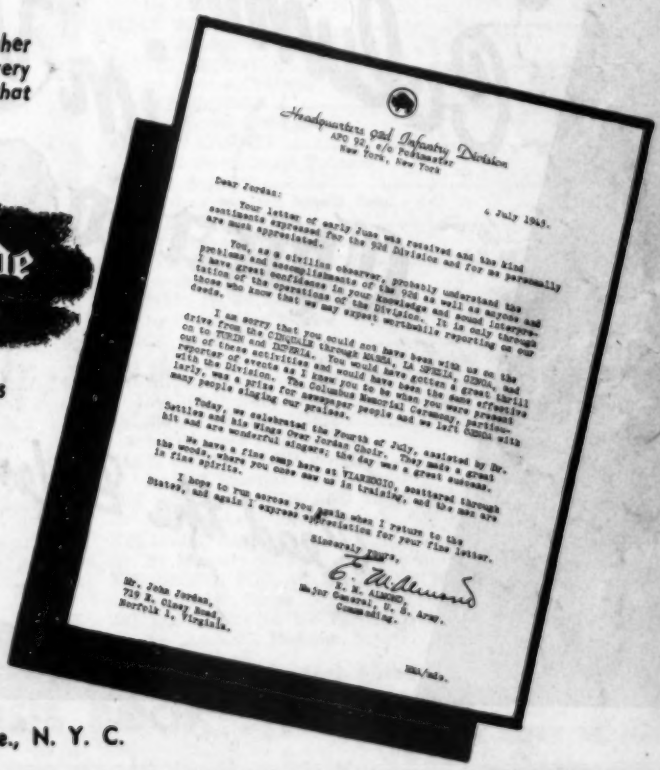

Headquarters 92d Infantry Division
APO 92, c/o Postmaster
New York, New York

Dear Jordan:

4 July 1943.

Your letter of early June was received and the kind sentiments expressed for the 92d Division and for me personally are much appreciated.

You, as a civilian observer, probably understand the problems and accomplishments of the 92d as well as anyone and I have great confidence in your knowledge and sound interpretation of the operations in your knowledge and sound interpretation of the operations of the Division. It is only through those who know that we may expect worthwhile reporting on our deeds.

I am sorry that you could not have been with us on the drive from the CINQUALE through ARNO, to LA SPEZIA, GENOA, and on to TURIN and SUSANNA. You would have gotten a great thrill out of these activities and would have gotten a great story. As reporter of events as I know you to be when the deeds of great with the Division, you would have been the envy of all correspondents larly, was a prize for newspaper people and we left GENOA with many people singing our praises.

Today, we celebrated the Fourth of July, assisted by Mr. Cottiles and his Wings Over Jordan Choir. They made a great hit and are wonderful singers; the day was a great success.

We have a fine camp here at VIAREGGIO, scattered through the woods, where you once saw us in training, and the men are in fine spirits.

I hope to run across you again when I return to the States, and again I express appreciation for your fine letter.

Sincerely Yours,

E. M. ALMOND
Major General, U. S. Army,
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